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OUR COUNTY AND ITS PEOPLE

A

DESCRIPTIVE AND BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD OF

GENESEE COUNTY

NEW YORK

V. I.

EDITED BY

SAFFORD E. NORTH

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INTRODUCTORY.

It has occurred to me many times in the course of the preparation of this book that those who have purchased it have invested even wiser than they knew. The interest and value of this volume are certain to increase and the man or woman who shall be the possessor of a copy a century hence will realize the force of this suggestion. Even at this time there is a great deal of interest in the pioneer history of this region, fostered as this interest is by the local society of The Daughters of the American Revolution and by the Holland Purchase Historical Society. This interest is likely to increase as the years go by. It is often said that history repeats itself, but such history as is made up of blazing pathways through primeval forests and of fighting battles with Indians will not be repeated in Western New York, and when viewed in the romantic light in which time robes the distant past will become of even more absorbing interest than at the present day.

While attempts have been made in past years towards placing in permanent form the interesting history of Genesee county and its immediate vicinity, it is generally conceded that such attempts, although quite worthy in some of their features, have not as a whole resulted satisfactorily. In undertaking the preparation of a work bearing the title, "Our County and Its People," as a successor to such books of local history as previously have been issued, it was fully comprehended that if a favorable verdict was expected from readers it could be secured with nothing less than a publication that would stand as the best of its kind, containing a complete, comprehensive and reasonably correct historical and biographical record of the county. An earnest and painstaking effort has been made by all who have shared in this task to reach that high standard. It remains with the public to determine how far the effort has been successful.

To those whose ancestors settled and who have long dwelt in this

locality; who have figured in its memorable historical incidents or shared in its important events; who have watched the growth and contributed to the welfare of the community; who have aided in developing its industries, in clearing and making productive its lands, and in founding its institutions, the skillfully told history of the region will have a peculiar interest and charm. Events and objects long familiar, perhaps, gain a new and more vivid fascination when the story of their creation or occurrence is placed upon the printed page, possibly linking them closely with vastly more momentous events of early times. The often-rehearsed story of a local battle ground is read with renewed interest by one who learns that his neighbor's sire or grandsire there shed his blood. A road so often traveled that its every feature is permanently pictured in the mind, becomes more than a familiar highway when the reader learns its history as an Indian trail, or that his immediate ancestors laid it out through the primeval forest. The very hills and valleys and streams assume a new and more interesting aspect when the historical record peoples them with the men and women of long ago. These are facts which enhance the value of all properly prepared local history and biography, through which the reader is made acquainted with the past of his dwelling place, and in which are preserved records that no community can afford to lose.

Local history bears to general history a similar relation to that of a microscopical examination and one made with the naked eye. The former must take cognizance of a multitude of minute details which of necessity must be passed over in the latter. Minor facts of little value in themselves, often assume great importance when considered with their attendant circumstances and surroundings. It is the gathering, compilation, and arrangement of these many minor details that demand patience, time, and skill. Descriptions of local events, unless of paramount importance, frequently went unrecorded in early years, thus doubling the task of obtaining them at the present time. The placing on record of hundreds of dates and thousands of names is alone an arduous task and one demanding the utmost watchfulness and care to avoid error. Harsh criticism will, therefore, be tempered with mildness by the fairminded reader who may find a single error among a myriad of correct statements.

It is impossible to perform the otherwise pleasant task of expressing gratitude to the many persons who have given substantial aid during the preparation of this work. This is especially due to George B. An-

derson in recognition of his scholarly and valuable work. He devoted several months to research, in gathering and arranging material for the pages of this history, to the examination of the records of the office of the Secretary of State at Albany, old newspaper files and to local records public and private wherever available. It seemed to me throughout his work that he brought to bear not only great industry and zeal but the literary discrimination of a mind thoroughly fitted for historical research. In this connection it will not be considered invidious to mention the assistance cheerfully accorded by the various county and town officials, and the heads of many institutions that have been founded in the county, all of whom have shown their interest in the progress of this work.

A word should be said with reference to that portion of this work devoted to personal sketches. It has not been attempted to go much further than to include the subscribers to the work and their kindred. To have attempted to include a sketch of every family in the county would have been out of the question, while any effort to discriminate by arbitrarily selecting from among living residents those who might be considered "prominent" would have been more impossible. The chapter referred to therefore is distinctly a subscribers' chapter. Those who are paying for this work are afforded an opportunity to preserve in permanent form a family sketch, with some detail as to ancestry. It is believed that upon reflection no subscriber can complain that a like opportunity has not been given to all others or that those who have prepared the work have not attempted the task of selecting from non-subscribers those especially deserving of notice.

BATAVIA, August 1, 1899.

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OUR COUNTY AND ITS PEOPLE.

CHAPTER I.

Erection of Genesee County and Its Subdivision—Surface and Geology of the County—Its Streams—Numerous Railroads Traversing Its Territory—Erection of the Various Townships in the County.

The original ten counties of the Province, now the State, of New York, were created November 1, 1683, and named New York, Kings, Queens, Suffolk, Richmond, Westchester, Orange, Ulster, Dutchess and Albany. March 12, 1772, Tryon county was taken from Albany county, and the name was changed to Montgomery in 1784. Montgomery county originally included nearly all the central and western part of the State. January 27, 1789, Ontario county, occupying most of the western portion of the State, was set apart from Montgomery county. March 30, 1802, all that part of the State lying west of the Genesee river and a line extending due south from the point of junction of the Genesee and Canaseraga creek to the south line of the State, was set off from Ontario county and designated as Genesee county. It will thus be seen that the original Genesee county comprised all the territory embraced within the present counties of Genesee, Orleans, Wyoming, Niagara, Erie, Cattaraugus and Chautauqua, and the western portions of Monroe, Livingston and Allegany counties.

The first division of the original county of Genesee occurred April 7, 1806, when Allegany county was set off by act of the Legislature. Allegany county then comprised parts of Genesee, Wyoming and Livingston counties. The northern section was set off to Genesee county in 1811, and the northern central part was set off to Wyoming and Livingston counties in 1846. March 11, 1803, the counties of Cattaraugus, Chautauqua and Niagara were erected, the latter then including Erie county, which was erected as a separate county April 2, 1821.

February 23, 1821, the size of the county was still further reduced by the erection of Livingston and Monroe counties, whose western portions lay within the original limits of Genesee. A part of Covington was annexed to Livingston county in 1823. November 11, 1824, Orleans county was taken off, and April 5, 1825, the town of Shelby was annexed from Genesee county. The final reduction in territory occurred May 14, 1841, when the major portion of the present Wyoming county was taken off.

It will thus be seen that in recording the history of Genesee county prior to 1841, the writer is compelled to deal with a very large portion of Western New York, and the early history of all that region is intimately connected with the story of the modern development of this county.

Genesee county lies in the midst of one of the most fertile regions in the vicinity of the Great Lakes, joining the most westerly tier of the New York counties on the east. It is bounded on the north by Orleans and Monroe counties, on the east by Monroe and Livingston, on the south by Wyoming and Livingston, and on the west by Erie and Niagara. A narrow strip in the extreme southeastern corner is also bounded on the west by Wyoming county; a portion of the town of Le Roy is bounded on the north by Monroe county and an extremely small strip of the same town is bounded on the south by the same county; and portions of Le Roy and Pavilion are bounded on the south by Livingston county. The area of Genesee county is five hundred and seven square miles.

The surface of the county is mostly level or gently undulating, except along the southern border, which is occupied by ranges of hills extending northerly from Wyoming county. Some of these hills rise to an elevation of from two hundred to three hundred feet above the flat lands, and about one thousand feet above the level of the sea. Extending east and west through the county, north of the centre, is a terrace of limestone, bordered in many places by nearly perpendicular ledges. In the extreme eastern and western parts of the county this terrace ranges from fifty to one hundred feet in height, but toward the central portion the height averages from twenty to forty feet.

The principal streams are Tonawanda creek,¹ which, rising in Wy-

¹ The name Tonawanda, strangely enough, when the generally sluggish course of the stream is considered, signifies in the Indian language, "swiftly running water," "from the rapid current" for about ten miles below Batavia.

oming county, enters the town of Alexander from the south, flows in a northeasterly direction through that town and Batavia to the village of Batavia, where it turns and flows in a westerly, then northwesterly, direction through the latter town, Pembroke and Alabama, leaving the latter town at a point a trifle north of the centre of its western boundary. The course of Tonawanda creek is exceedingly tortuous, and for the most of its course it flows in a very sluggish manner. An idea of its tortuosity may be gained from the fact that between Attica, in Wyoming county, and Batavia this stream flows between two parallel roads about a mile apart; and while the distance between these two points is about eleven miles by the highway, by the course of the stream it is forty-three miles.

The principal tributaries of Tonawanda creek are Little Tonawanda and Bowen's creeks. Oak Orchard creek has its source near the centre of the county, and winds its way through Batavia and Elba, turning at the northeast corner of the latter town and continuing westerly and flowing through the great Tonawanda swamp, which occupies the northern part of the towns of Elba, Oakfield and Alabama. Black creek, known by the Indians as Cheekanango creek, flows in a northerly direction through the central parts of the towns of Bethany, Stafford and Byron, and thence easterly through Bergen into Monroe county. Its principal tributaries are Spring and Bigelow creeks. Oatka creek flows across the southeast corner of the county. Murder creek and Eleven Mile creek flow through the southwest corner. Tonawanda, Black and Oatka creeks form a series of picturesque cascades in their passage down the limestone terrace north of the centre of the county.

The lowest rocks in Genesee county form a part of the Onondaga salt group, extending along the northern border. Gypsum abounds in large quantities in Le Roy, Stafford and Byron. This is succeeded by hydraulic, Onondaga and corniferous limestone, which form the limestone terrace extending through the county. The outcrop of these rocks furnish lime and building stone. Succeeding the limestone, in the order named, are the Marcellus and Hamilton shales, which occupy the entire southern part of the county. The surface generally is covered thick with drift deposits, and the underlying rocks appear only in the ravines of the streams. Most of the swamps contain thick deposits of muck and marl, furnishing in great abundance the elements of future fertility to the soil. Nearly all the springs and streams are constantly

depositing lime in the form of marl. Along the northern boundary of the county are numerous wells yielding water which is strongly impregnated with sulphuric acid, and known as "sour springs." Salt was discovered in the town of Le Roy in 1881, at a depth of six hundred and fifteen feet. The supply is considered practically inexhaustible.

Genesee county is well supplied with railroads, furnishing transportation facilities equalled by but few counties in New York State. Batavia and Le Roy are the two principal railroad centres, as well as the most populous villages.

The main line of the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad enters the county at the eastern boundary of Bergen, and passes in a generally southwesterly direction through that town, Byron, Stafford, Batavia, Pembroke and Darien. The Tonawanda railroad has its eastern terminus at Batavia, and extends thence westerly through that town and Pembroke. The West Shore Railroad passes easterly and westerly through the northern part of the county, traversing the towns of Bergen, Byron, Elba, Oakfield and Alabama. The Buffalo and Geneva Railroad enters the town of Le Roy at its eastern boundary and extends in a generally southwesterly direction through Le Roy, Stafford, Batavia, Pembroke and Darien. The Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad crosses the southern part of the county from east to west, traversing the towns of Pavilion, Bethany, Alexander and Darien. The Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh Railroad enters the county at the southern boundary of Pavilion, runs northerly through that town and Le Roy to the village of Le Roy, where it turns and extends easterly, leaving the county at the east bounds of Le Roy. The New York, Lake Erie and Western Railroad enters the county at the western boundary of Darien, crosses that town to Alexander and runs thence to Attica. At the latter place one branch takes a northeasterly and southeasterly curve through the southern parts of Alexander and Bethany, leaving the county near the southwest corner of the latter town. Another branch runs northeasterly through Alexander and Batavia to the village of Batavia, where it turns and thence pursues an easterly course through the towns of Batavia, Stafford and Le Roy. The Batavia and Canandaigua Railroad enters the county at the eastern boundary of Le Roy, passes westerly through that town, Stafford and Batavia to the village of Batavia, where it forms a junction with the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad.

There are thirteen towns in Genesee county—Alabama, Alexander,

Batavia, Bergen, Bethany, Byron, Darien, Elba, Le Roy, Oakfield, Pavilion, Pembroke and Stafford.

Of these towns Batavia is the oldest, having been erected when the original county was formed, March 30, 1802. As at first constituted it comprised the territory now composing the towns of Alexander, Bergen, Byron, Bethany, Pembroke, Darien, Elba and Oakfield, and parts of the towns of Alabama and Stafford. Alexander, Bergen (including Byron), Bethany and Pembroke (including Darien and a part of Alabama) were taken off June 8, 1812; Elba (including Oakfield) and a part of Stafford were taken off in March, 1820. Le Roy was formed from Caledonia (Livingston county) June 8, 1812, and was originally called Bellona. Its name was changed April 6, 1813. A part of Stafford was taken off in 1820 and a part of Pavilion in 1842. Stafford was formed from Batavia and Le Roy March 24, 1820. A part of Pavilion was taken off in 1842. Alabama, originally called Gerrysville, was formed from Pembroke and Shelby (Orleans county) April 17, 1826. Its name was changed April 21, 1828. A part of the town of Wales was annexed in 1832. Pavilion was formed from Covington (Wyoming county) May 19, 1841. Parts of Le Roy and Stafford were annexed March 22, 1842.

CHAPTER II.

The Great Iroquois Confederacy—Its Foundation, Customs and Laws—Its Wide Dominion—The Seneca Indians, the Aborigines of Genesee County—Subdivisions of the Five Nations—Political Aspect of This Powerful Savage Republic.

The Seneca Indians, the immediate predecessors of the Holland Company in the occupancy of the region west of the Genesee river, were the fifth and most westerly nation of the great Iroquois Confederacy. The Mohawks were the original Confederates, their abode being along the banks of the Mohawk river. The Oneidas were located upon the southern shore of Oneida lake; the Onondagas near Onondaga lake; the Cayugas near Cayuga lake; and the Senecas upon Seneca lake and Genesee river. These localities were the seats, or places of the council fires of the various tribes, though the tribes did not confine themselves to these localities alone. They really occupied, in de-

tached villages, nearly the entire State, from the Hudson to the Niagara river. Each nation had a principal seat, as indicated, with tributary villages.

The actual dominion of the Iroquois had a much wider range, however, than the territory mentioned. They laid claim to sovereignty to "all the land not sold to the English, from the mouth of Sorel River, on the south sides of Lakes Erie and Ontario, on both sides of the Ohio till it falls into the Mississippi; and on the north side of these lakes that whole territory between the Ottawa River and Lake Huron, and even beyond the straits between that and Lake Erie." When the settlement of Manhattan, Beverwyck and Rensselaerwyck was begun by the Dutch, the Long Island Indians, those on the north shore of Long Island Sound, and those inhabiting the banks of the Connecticut, Hudson, Delaware and Susquehanna rivers were dominated by the Iroquois, to whom they paid annual tribute. Even the powerful Canadian tribes were conquered by the warlike Five Nations. Schoolcraft says:

At one period we hear the sound of their war cry along the Straits of the St. Mary's, and at the foot of Lake Superior. At another, under the walls of Quebec, where they finally defeated the Hurons, under the eyes of the French. They put out the fires of the Gah-kwas and Eries. They eradicated the Susquehannocks. They placed the Lenapes, the Nanticokes, and the Munsees under the yoke of subjection. They put the Metoacks and Mannattans under tribute. They spread the terror of their arms over all New England. They traversed the length of the Appalachian Chain and descended like the enraged jagishi and megalonyx, on the Cherokees and Catawbas. Smith encountered their warriors in the settlement of Virginia, and La Salle in the discovery of Illinois.

In 1660 the French declared the number of the Iroquois warriors to be 2,200; in 1677 an agent of England, dispatched to their country for the sole purpose of ascertaining their strength, confirmed the French estimate. Bancroft says that their geographical position "made them umpires in the contest of the French for dominion in the west."

The strength of these Five Nations lay in the fact that they were confederated. The nations they made war against were detached, and not only would not join in attempting to bar the progress of the triumphant Iroquois, but doubtless had feuds among themselves. The Iroquois, on the other hand, invariably acted as one nation in war, always in perfect accord. Perhaps by reason of their constant intercourse and interchange of ideas, possibly from other reasons, they had a physical and mental organization, a certain degree of enlightenment,

¹ Smith's History of New York.

far ahead of that of all other tribes or nations. They were most appropriately termed the Romans of the West, a name first applied to them by Volney, the French historian. "Had they enjoyed the advantages possessed by the Greeks and the Romans," wrote President Dwight in his "Travels," "there is no reason to believe they would have been at all inferior to these celebrated nations. Their minds appear to have been equal to any effort within the reach of man. Their conquests, if we consider their numbers and circumstances, were little inferior to those of Rome itself. In their harmony, the unity of their operations, the energy of their character, the vastness, vigor, and success of their enterprises, and the strength and sublimity of their eloquence, they may be fairly compared with the Greeks."

While the Seneca Indians were the aboriginal inhabitants of the eastern portion of the territory which subsequently became the original Genesee county, the Neutral Nation inhabited that part of the territory contiguous to the Niagara river and the eastern end of Lake Erie. The Senecas were the most numerous of the five nations known as the Iroquois, or the Five Nations, and they occupied the most westerly portion of the territory controlled by this great confederacy. The English called the Iroquois the Confederates; the Dutch, more particularly those who settled the Mohawk valley, knew them only as the Mohawks and Senecas; and the Indians called themselves the Aganonschioni, meaning "United People." They also called themselves the Hodenosaunee, meaning "People of the Long House," all their habitations being low, narrow and as a rule very long. They also likened their confederacy, stretched for two hundred miles along a narrow valley, to one of the long wigwams containing many families.¹

The Five Nations were composed of the Mohawks, on the east; next west being the Oneidas, then the Onondagas, then the Cayugas, and finally the Senecas, who held most of the original county of Genesee. When the Tuscaroras, from the Carolinas, joined the confederacy known as the Five Nations, they became amalgamated with the Oneidas and gradually lost their identity. When the confederacy was established is not known. In David Cusick's history he relates the Indian traditions relative to the origin of the kingdom. The following is abstracted from the work referred to:

¹ For the brief résumé of early Indian history contained in this chapter the writer is indebted to David Cusick's sketches of ancient history of the Six Nations, with annotations by W. M. Beauchamp, and to data furnished by the late George S. Conover, the well known authority on Indian history.

By some inducement a body of people was concealed in the mountain at the falls named Kuskehsawkich (now Oswego). When the people were released from the mountains they were visited by Tarenyawagon, i. e., the Holder of the Heavens, who had power to change himself into various shapes; he ordered the people to proceed toward the sunrise as he guided them and come to a river and named Yenonanatche, i. e., going around a mountain (now Mohawk), and went down the bank of the river and come to where it discharges into a great river running towards the midday sun; and Shaw-nay-taw-ty, i. e., beyond the pineries (now Hudson), and went down the bank of the river and touched bank of a great water. . . . The people were yet in one language; some of the people went to the banks of the great water towards the midday sun, but the main company returned as they came, on the banks of the river, under the direction of the Holder of the Heavens. Of this company there was a particular body which called themselves one household; of these were six families and they entered into a resolution to preserve the chain of alliance which should not be extinguished in any manner. The company advanced some distance up the river of Shaw-na-taw-ty (Hudson), the Holder of the Heavens directs the first family to make their residence near the bank of the river, and the family was named Te-haw-re-ho-geh, i. e., a speech divided (now Mohawk) and their language was soon altered; the company then turned and went towards the sunsetting, and traveled about two days and a half, and come to a creek, which was named Kaw-na-taw-te-ruh, i. e., Pineries. The second family was directed to make their residence near the creek, and the family was named Ne-haw-re-tah-go, i. e., Big Tree, now Oneidas, and likewise their language was altered. The company continued to proceed towards the sunsetting; under the direction of the Holder of the Heavens. The third family was directed to make their residence on a mountain named Onondaga (now Onondaga) and the family was named Seuh-now-kah-tah, i. e., carrying the name, and their language was altered. The company continued their journey towards the sunsetting. The fourth family was directed to make their residence near a long lake named Go-yo-goh, i. e., a mountain rising from the water (now Cayuga) and the family was named Sho-nea-na-we-to-wah, i. e., a great pipe, their language was altered. The company continued to proceed towards the sunsetting. The fifth company was directed to make their residence near a high mountain, or rather nole, situated south of the Canandaigua lake, which was named Jenneatowake and the family was named Te-how-nea-nyo-hent, i. e., Passing a Door, now Seneca, and their language was altered. The sixth family went with the company that journeyed towards the sunsetting, and touched the bank of a great lake, and named Kau-ha-gwa-rah-ka, i. e., A Cap, now Erie, and then went towards between the mid-day and sunsetting, and travelled considerable distance and came to a large river which was named Ouau-we-yo-ka, i. e., a principal stream, now Mississippi. . . . The family was directed to make their residence near Cautanoh; i. e., Pine in water, situated near the mouth of Nuse river, now in North Carolina, and the family was named Kau-ta-noh, now Tuscarora and their language was altered. . . . The Holder of the Heavens returns to the five families and forms the mode of confederacy which was named Ggo-nea-seab-neh, i. e., A Long House, to which are 1st—Tea-kaw-reh-ho-geh; 2d—New-haw-teh tab-go; 3d—Seuh-nau-kata; 4th—Sho-nea-na-we-to-wan; 5th—Te-hoo-nea-nyo-hent.

This organization is supposed to have taken place between 1900 and 2000 years before Columbus discovered America, or between 400 B.C. and 500 B.C. While this account is purely traditional it is conceded by most authorities to be the most authentic in existence.

When the white intruders first discovered that such an alliance existed, all that was known of the organization of the form of government so remarkable among a savage people was, as we have shown, mere tradition. Each nation of the confederacy was independent of every other in all matters of a local character, and in the councils no sachem was superior to another, except by reason of higher intellectual attainments, such as they might be. The fifty offices created at the organization of the confederacy were distributed among the nations according to their numerical strength. Although these offices were hereditary, no one could become a ruler or sachem until elevated to such a place by a council of all the sachems of the original American confederacy. The sachems, who, in council, constituted the legislative body of the union were also the local rulers of their respective nations. While a sachem or chief had civil authority, he could not be a chieftain in war until elected to that position. Every sachem went on the war-path as a common warrior unless he had been doubly honored and made a military leader as well as a civil officer. The Iroquois nation then was practically a republic, founded on much the same principles as the United States of America.

The policy of the Iroquois nation in war appears to have been not alone for the sake of war, but for conquest and the extension of the nation's power and influence. So successful were they in their efforts that at the end of the seventeenth century they dominated a very large portion of what is now the United States. The Iroquois of New York and the Algonquin tribes of New England were perpetually at war.

For many years, during the early French and Indian wars and doubtless for a long period prior thereto, the principal and probably the most western of the permanent villages of the Senecas, was located at Boughton Hill, about twenty miles east of Rochester. Sporadic camps were to be found among the forests and in the sheltered places in the territory further west, which afterward became Genesee county; but aside from a village (probably a summer encampment) on the site of Buffalo, we have no knowledge of the existence of any centres of population among the Senecas west of the Genesee river prior to 1687, when Governor de Nonville of Canada made his first invasion. As late

as 1779, when Sullivan entered upon his campaign against them, he went no further west than the Genesee river. The year following the Senecas, who had deserted their villages at Sullivan's approach, established a permanent settlement on Buffalo Creek, on territory from which they had driven the Kah Kwah tribe. This settlement was made upon the advice and under the auspices of the British at Fort Niagara, to whom the Indians had fled from the French for protection and relief.

The Neutral Nation (the Kah-Kwahs), to which reference has been made, occupied the territory adjoining the Niagara river on both the east and the west, but they ventured but a short distance eastward from that stream. They had but four villages on the east side of the river. The Kah-Kwahs were called the Neutral Nation by reason of the fact that they found it necessary for their own preservation to maintain peaceful relations with both the Iroquois of Central New York and the Hurons of Canada. The two latter nations were hostile, but they met under an armistice in the territory of the Kah-Kwahs. The latter were unable to continue their policy of peace and neutrality for long, and the nation was finally disrupted and overthrown by death in battle, and adoption into the rival tribes of the Hurons and the Iroquois.

It is a fact worthy of note that the confederacy recognized no religious functionaries, though in each nation there were officers who officiated at the religious ceremonies held at stated intervals throughout the year. Among most of the aboriginal nations there existed a regular religious profession; but among the Iroquois this was unknown. In reality the Iroquois were governed but little. Each warrior was in a measure independent. But the moral state of the Iroquois was high, and it was their boast that they had ever maintained it.

There were in each nation eight tribes, named as follows: Wolf, Bear, Beaver, Turtle, Deer, Snipe, Heron and Hawk. The Wolf tribe was divided into five parts, one-fifth being located in each of the five nations. The remaining tribes were similarly divided and distributed, thus giving to each nation the eight tribes, and in their separated state making forty tribes in the confederacy. Between the separated parts of each tribe there existed a relationship which linked the nations together with firm bonds. The Mohawk Indian of the Hawk tribe recognized the Onondaga or the Seneca of the Hawk tribe as his brother, and each considered the other bound to him by ties of consanguinity. This custom prevailed among all the tribes of the various nations, probably furnishing the chief reason why the fragments of the ancient con-

federacy continued to cling together long after it was disrupted by the encroachments of the whites. The wisdom of these divisions and distributions is shown by the history of the nation; for its various nations never fell into a state of anarchy, nor did any nation ever hint at such a thing as secession. The confederacy was, in fact, a lasting league of tribes, interwoven into one great family, the tribes themselves, in their subdivisions, being composed of parts of many households. Thus it will be seen that the basis of the entire organization was the family relationship.

The Wolf, Bear, Beaver and Turtle tribes were brothers to one another and cousins to the tribes known as Deer, Snipe, Heron and Hawk. These groups were not permitted to intermarry. But any of the first four tribes could intermarry with any of the last four. Whoever violated the laws of marriage incurred everlasting disgrace and degradation. In the course of time, however, the rigor of this system was relaxed until the prohibition was confined to the tribe of the individual. The children always followed the tribe of the mother.

Naturally, in accord with such a system, the separate rights of each tribe and of each individual were jealously guarded. One of the most remarkable civil institutions was that which confined the transmission of all titles, rights and property in the female line to the exclusion of the male. For example, if the Wolf tribe of the Senecas received a sachemship at the original distribution of these offices, the descent of such title being limited to the female line it could never pass out of the tribe. One of the most marked results of this system was the perpetual disinheritance of the son. Being of the tribe of his mother it formed an impassable barrier against him; and he could neither succeed his father as a sachem nor inherit from him even his medal or his tomahawk. For the protection of tribal, rather than individual or family rights, the inheritance was thus directed from the descendants of the sachem to his brother, his sister's children, or some individual of the tribe at large under certain circumstances.

The method of reckoning degrees of consanguinity was clear and definite. No distinction was made between the lineal and collateral line, either in the ascending or descending series. The maternal grandmother and her sisters were equally grandmothers; the mother and her sisters were equally mothers; the children of a mother's sisters were brothers and sisters; the children of a sister would be nephews and nieces; and the grandchildren of a sister would be grandchildren—

that is, the grandchildren of a person from whom the degree of relationship is reckoned. These were the principal relatives within the tribe. Out of the tribe the paternal grandfather and his brothers were equally grandfathers; the father and his brothers were equally fathers; the father's sisters were aunts, while in the tribe the mother's brothers were uncles; the children of the father's sister were cousins, as in the civil law; the children of these cousins would be nephews and nieces; and the children of these nephews and nieces would be his grandchildren. The children of a brother were reckoned as children, and the grandchildren of a brother were grandchildren. The children of a father's brothers were brothers and sisters; and their children were reckoned as grandchildren.¹

The peculiarities of the mode of computing the degrees of blood relationship were nothing as compared with the intricacies of the succession among the rulers of the confederacy. Some authorities claim that the sachemships were elective offices; others have endeavored to point out that they were hereditary. Apparently they were, many times, both elective and hereditary. One fact should be borne in mind, in order that the casual reader may not be misled; and that is that the titles of of sachem and war-chief are absolutely hereditary in the tribe to which they were originally assigned, and can never pass out of it, except with its extinction.

As has been shown, the sachem's brothers, and the sons of his sisters, are of his tribe, and therefore in the line of succession. Between a brother and nephew of the deceased there was no law establishing a preference. Between several brothers, on the one hand, and several sons of a sister, on the other, there was no distinction in the law. Nor was there any positive law that the choice should be confined to the brothers of the deceased ruler, or to the descendants of his sister in the female line, before a selection could be made from the tribe at large. It thus appears that the offices were hereditary in the particular tribe in which they ran, while being elective as between the male members of the tribe itself.

Upon the decease of a sachem a council of the tribes was held to select his successor. In the absence of physical and moral objections

¹ The names of the several degrees of relationship recognized among the Iroquois are as follows, in the Seneca tongue. Grandfather, Ho-ssote; grandmother, Ues-te; father, ha-mih; mother, Noh-yeh; son, ho-ah-week; daughter, g-ah-week; grandchildren, ka-wa-da; uncle, ho-no-seli; aunt, ah-geh-ha; nephew, ha-yan-wan-dih; niece, ka-ya-wan-dih; brothers and sisters, da-ya-gwa-dan-oh; cousin, ah-gare-seli.

the choice generally fell upon a son of the deceased ruler's sisters, or upon one of his brothers. If the new sachem was an infant a guardian was chosen for him, and such guardian performed the duties of a sachem until the young sachem reached a suitable age. It seldom happened that a selection from the tribe at large was made unless the near relatives or direct heirs proved unfit for or unworthy of the office.

The tribes held the power of deposition as well as that of selection. If a sachem lost the confidence and respect of the tribe, and was deemed unworthy of authority, he was at once deposed by a tribal council.

The manner of selecting names for infants was unique. Soon after a birth occurred, a name for the infant was selected by the near relatives of the same tribe. At the next national council public announcement of the birth and name was made, with the name and tribe of the father and name and tribe of the mother. When an individual was invested with authority as a sachem, his original name was cast aside and that of his sachemship itself assumed. The same rule applied to war-chiefs. When a chief was chosen, the council of the nation performing the ceremony took away the original individual name and assigned to the incumbent a new one. Thus, when the celebrated Red Jacket was raised to the dignity of chief, his original name, O-te-ti-an-i (meaning Always Ready), was laid aside and the name of Sa-go-ye-wat-ha (meaning Keeper Awake), signifying the power of his eloquence, was bestowed upon him.

A tribe of the Ho-de-no-sau-nee involves the idea of descent from a common mother. In the formation of an Iroquois tribe portions were taken from many households and bound together by a tribal bond, in reality by the ties of consanguinity. All the members of the tribe were connected by easily traceable relationship. The wife, her children, and her descendants in the female line were forever linked with the destinies of her own tribe and kindred; and the husband, his brothers and his sisters, and the descendants of the latter in the female line, were held by affinity to the mother tribe.

This magnificent republic was founded upon terms of absolute equality. Those apparently special privileges that were granted to certain tribes arose solely from locality. For instance, the Senecas, located upon the western frontier of the nation, were allowed to have the head war-chiefs; while the Mohawks, by reason of their most easterly location, became receivers of tribute from the subjugated nations to the north, east and south of them.

A great peculiarity of the confederacy was that unanimity was one of the fundamental laws. Such a thing as majority rule was unknown. With the idea of obviating altercations in council, as far as possible, the founders of the confederacy divided the sachems of each nation into classes, usually of two and three each. No sachem was allowed to express an opinion in council until he had agreed with the other sachems of his class upon the opinion to be expressed and had been designated as spokesman for his class. Thus, the eight sachems of the Senecas, being divided into four classes, were entitled to but four opinions. The four sachems representing the four classes then held a consultation, and when they had agreed they selected one of their number to express their opinion. This opinion was the opinion and decision of the nation. The final settlement was reached by a conference of the individual representatives of the several nations; but no determination was reached until these delegates were unanimously agreed upon the question at issue. Thus, the Iroquois war against the French was declared by a unanimous vote; but when the question of an alliance with the British in the Revolution came up, the council was divided, and although most of the confederates were allies of the British in that war, it was by reason of the fact that each nation was permitted to act as it deemed best.

The earliest detailed notice, from English sources, of the territory which subsequently became, for the most part, the original county of Genesee, was contained in a work published in London in 1780 under the title of "Chalmer's Political Annals of the United Colonies." The descriptive article which was of interest in this connection appeared under the heading of "Observations of Wentworth Greenhalph, in a journey from Albany to the Indians westward, begun the 28th of May, 1677, and ended the 14th of July following." After describing the country of the first four nations of the Iroquois Confederacy, the writer alludes as follows to the Senecas and their abode:

The Senecas have four towns, viz:—Canagorah, Tistehatan, Canoenada, Keint-he. Canagorah and Tistehatan lie within thirty miles of the Lake Frontenac; the other two about four or five miles to the southward of these; they have abundance of corn. None of their towns are stockaded.

Canagorah lies at the top of a great hill, and, in that as well as in the bigness, much like Onondagoe,¹ containing one hundred and fifty houses, northwestward of Cayuga seventy-two miles.

Here the Indians were very desirous to see us ride our horses, which we did. They made feasts and dancing, and invited us.

¹ Onondagoe is described as "situated on a hill that is very large, the bank on each side extending itself at least two miles, all cleared lands, whereon the corn is planted."

Tistehatan lies on the edge of a hill; not much cleared ground; is near the river Tistehatan, which signifies bending.¹ It lies to the northward of Canagorah about thirty miles; contains about one hundred and twenty houses, being the largest of all the houses we saw; the ordinary being fifty or sixty feet long, and some one hundred and thirty or one hundred and forty feet long, with thirteen or fourteen fires in one house. They have good store of corn growing about a mile to the northward of the town.

Being at this place, on the 17th of June, there came fifty prisoners from the south-westward, and they were of two nations; some of whereof have a few guns, the other none. One nation is about ten days' journey from any Christians, and trade only with one great house, not far from the sea; and the other, as they say, trade only with a black people. This day, of them were burnt two women and a man, and a child killed with a stone. At night we heard a great noise, as if the houses had all fallen; but it was only the inhabitants driving away the ghosts of the murdered.

The 18th, going to Canagorah, we overtook the prisoners. When the soldiers saw us, they stopped each his prisoner, and made him sing and cut off their fingers and slashed their bodies with a knife; and, when they had sung, each man confessed how many men he had killed. That day, at Canagorah, there were most cruelly burned four men, four women and one boy; the cruelty lasted about seven hours; when they were almost dead, letting them loose to the mercy of the boys, and taking the hearts of such as were dead to feast on.

Canoenada lies about four miles to the southward of Canagorah; contains about thirty houses, well furnished with corn.

Keint-he lies about four or five miles to the southward of Tistehatan; contains about twenty-four houses, well furnished with corn.

The Senekas are counted in all about 1,000 fighting men.

Whole force—Magas.....	300
Oneydoes.....	200
Onondagoes.....	350
Cayugas.....	300
Senekas.....	1,000

Total.....2,150 fighting men.

Rev. Samuel Kirkland left Johnson's Hall at Johnstown, Fulton county, January 16, 1765, accompanied by two Seneca Indians, upon a mission embracing all the centres of population among the Iroquois. He finally reached Kanadasagea, the principal town of the Senecas, where he delivered to the sachem the message, or letter of introduction, furnished to him by Sir William Johnson. He was received in a friendly spirit, excepting by a limited number of Indians, who appeared to dislike his advent. The Senecas, after deliberating over the matter, finally decided that he should establish his residence among them. A few weeks after his arrival he was formally adopted into the family

¹ Probably the Genesee.

of the chief sachem of the nation. This adoption was effected only after formal ceremonies. Upon his entrance into the council one of the chiefs, after a short period of silence, said:

Brothers, open your ears and your eyes. You see here our white brother who has come from a great distance, recommended to us by our great chief, Sir William Johnson, who has enjoined it upon us to be kind to him, and to make him comfortable and to protect him to the utmost of our power. He comes to do us good. Brothers, this young white brother of ours has left his father's house, and his mother, and all his relations. We must now provide for him a house. I am appointed to you and to our young white brother, that our head sachem adopts him into his family. He will be a father to him, and his wife will be a mother, and his sons and daughters will be his brothers and sisters.

The head sachem of the Senecas, arising, then took him by the hand, called him his son and led him to the spot where his family were seated. "A smile of cheerfulness sat on every countenance," says Mr. Kirkland in his journal, "and I could not refrain from tears; tears of joy and gratitude for the kind Providence that had protected me through a long journey, brought me to the place of my desire, and given me so kind a reception among the poor savage Indians."

Unfortunately, however, the relations begun on such a friendly basis were destined to be interrupted with a menace against the missionary sent out by Sir William. A few days after Mr. Kirkland had become a member of the Indian family referred to, the head of this family, a man greatly respected, fell ill and died. Several of the Senecas, who were jealous of the young missionary on account of his great popularity among the nation as a whole, at once made the death of this Indian a pretext for creating, or attempting to create, a feeling of prejudice against him, alleging that the death was produced by magic, or that it was "an intimation of the displeasure of the Great Spirit at his visit and residence among them." They insisted that the safety of the remainder of the nation demanded that the newcomer must instantly be put to death. Upon these presentations councils were convened, and for several days the Senecas deliberated over the matter. In this hour of trial the chief sachem proved the steadfast friend of Mr. Kirkland, opposing every proposition to do him any harm of whatsoever nature. The counsels of the friends of the threatened minister prevailed in the end, and thereafter he lived, as he said in his journal, "in great harmony, friendship and sociability." For eight years prior to the Revolution he lived among the Senecas, and during that struggle, though he had been sent among them by a warm adherent of the British cause,

he succeeded in diverting many of the members of the nation from adherence to the cause of the crown. He exerted a strong influence among them, and in after years his services were much sought by those who desired to hold councils with them for the purpose of entering upon treaties with them.

About a hundred years ago Red Jacket was a powerful chief of the Senecas, who at that time had lost their independent power and become wards of the American nation. In 1792 he and Farmer's Brother, representing the Senecas, visited the American capital, Philadelphia, when President Washington presented to the former a silver medal, which he wore on State occasions during the remainder of his life. Red Jacket at that time professed to be friendly to civilization, but in after years he became a slave to spirituous liquors and lost much of his prestige, both with the federal government and his own tribe. He died January 20, 1830. Farmer's Brother was an influential and eloquent chief and warrior. During the latter days of his life he was the staunch friend of peace and civilization and did much to spread principles of temperance among his tribe. Another famous Indian of those days was John O'Bail, commonly known as Cornplanter, who was acknowledged as leader by a band of Senecas on the Allegany Reservation.

Red Jacket was born in 1756. His birthplace is believed to have been at a place formerly called "Old Castle," about three miles west of Geneva. His Indian name was Sa-go-yon-wat-ha, signifying "one who keeps awake by magical influence." During the Revolution the Senecas fought under the British standard. Although quite young, his activity and intelligence attracted the attention of the British officers, who presented to him a richly embroidered scarlet jacket. This he wore on all occasions, and from this circumstance arose the name by which he was known among the whites. During the Revolution he took little or no part therein as a warrior, but his personal activity and transcendent talents won the esteem of his tribe. A gentleman who knew him intimately for more than thirty years in peace and war spoke of him in the following terms:

Red Jacket was a perfect Indian in every respect, in costume, in his contempt of the dress of the white men, in his hatred of and opposition to the missionaries, and in his attachment to and veneration for the ancient customs and traditions of his tribe. He had a contempt for the English language, and disliked to use any other than his own. He was the finest specimen of the Indian character that I ever knew, and sustained it with more dignity than any other chief. He was second to none in

authority in his tribe. As an orator he was unequalled by any other Indian I ever saw. His language was beautiful and figurative, as the Indian language always is, and delivered with the greatest ease and fluency. His gesticulation was easy, graceful and natural. His voice was distinct and clear, and he always spoke with great animation. His memory was very strong. I have acted as interpreter to most of his speeches, to which no translation could do adequate justice.

Many interesting anecdotes, illustrative of the peculiarities of his character and his ready eloquence, are related. At a council held with the Senecas, a dispute arose between Governor Tompkins and Red Jacket, in relation to a treaty of several years' standing. The governor made a certain statement, and the famous chief insisted that the reverse was true. "But," came the reply, "you have forgotten—we have it written down on paper." "The paper then tells a lie," was Red Jacket's reply; "I have it written here," placing his hand with great dignity upon his brow. "You Yankees are born with a feather between your fingers; but your paper does not speak the truth. The Indian keeps his knowledge here—this is the book the Great Spirit gave us—it does not lie." The treaty in question was immediately referred to, when, to the astonishment of all present, and to the triumph of the bronzed statesman, the document confirmed every word he had uttered.

At a treaty held with the Indians during the Revolution, La Fayette was present. The object of the convention was to effect a union of the various tribes in amity with the patriot cause. The majority of the chiefs were friendly, but there was much opposition made to the proposal, especially by one young warrior, who declared that when an alliance was entered into with America, he should consider that the sun of his country had set forever. In his travels through the Indian country, when on his last visit to America, La Fayette referred to the treaty in question at a large assemblage of chiefs, and turning to Red Jacket said: "Pray tell me, if you can, what has become of that daring youth who so decidedly opposed all propositions for peace and amity?" "I myself, am the man," answered Red Jacket, "the decided enemy of the Americans so long as the hope of successfully opposing them remained, but now their true and faithful ally until death."

During the war of 1812 Red Jacket and his tribe enlisted in the American army. He fought through the entire war, displaying undaunted intrepidity; and in no instance did he exhibit the ferocity of the savage nor disgrace himself by any act of inhumanity.

Red Jacket was the foe of the white man until late in life. His nation was his god; her honor, preservation and liberty his religion. He

hated missionaries, because he feared some secret design upon the lands, the peace or the independence of the Senecas. He could never comprehend the apparent mysteries of Christianity. He was a keen observer of human nature, and saw that among both white and red men sordid interest was equally the promoter of action. Naturally enough he therefore suspected every stranger who came to his tribe of some design on their little but dearly prized domains.

His tribe was divided into two factions, one of which was called the Christian faction, by reason of its favorable attitude toward the missionaries; the other, from their opposition, was known as the pagan party. His wife, who attended the religious meetings of the Christian party, was persecuted by him on this account. But during his last sickness his feelings respecting Christianity appeared to have undergone quite a change. He frequently remarked to his wife that he was sorry that he had persecuted her, that she was right and he was wrong; and on his deathbed he said to her: "Persevere in your religion. It is the right way."

A few days before his death he sent for the local missionary, whose name was Harris; but as the latter was in attendance upon an ecclesiastical council he did not receive the message until after the great chieftain's death. In his last wandering moments he is said to have directed that a bottle of cold water should be placed in his coffin, so that he might have something with which to fight the evil spirit. Many persons from Buffalo attended his funeral, some of whom wished him buried according to the pagan custom. But in accordance with the expressed desire of his Christian wife and other relatives he was buried in the Christian manner. He left two wives, but none of his children survived him. Two of his sons are believed to have died Christians. Rev. Jabez B. Hyde, who taught among the Senecas prior to the war of 1812, was authority for the statement that one of Red Jacket's sons was the first convert to Christianity from this tribe.

For several months prior to his death time had made such ravages on the old chief's constitution as to render him fully sensible of his approaching dissolution. He often referred to that approaching event, but invariably in calm and philosophic terms. He visited successively all his most intimate friends at their cabins, conversing with them upon the condition of the nation in the most affecting and impressive manner. He told them that his counsels would soon be heard no more. He ran over the history of his people from the most remote period to which

his knowledge extended, and pointed out, as few could, the wrongs, the privations and the loss of character which almost of themselves constituted that history. "I am about to leave you," he said, "and when I am gone, and my warning shall no longer be heard or regarded, the craft and the avarice of the white man will prevail. Many winters have I breasted the storm, but I am an aged tree and can stand no longer. My leaves are fallen, my branches are withered, and I am shaken by every breeze. Soon my aged trunk will be prostrate, and the foot of the exulting foe of the Indian may be placed upon it in safety; for I leave none who will be able to avenge such an indignity. Think not I mourn for myself! I go to join the spirits of my fathers, where age cannot come; but my heart fails when I think of my people, who are so soon to be scattered and forgotten."¹

Ganothjowaneh, a distinguished chief of the Seneca tribe, is said to have been an orator superior even to Red Jacket. The whites called him Big Kettle. It is stated that he never tasted intoxicating liquors, opposing the practice among the Indians, and suffered some persecutions on that account. During the early period of his life he opposed the introduction of Christianity, but later was favorable to the faith. Mr. Wright, a missionary living among the Senecas near Buffalo in 1840, attempted to persuade him to embrace the Christian religion. When told that he was a sinner in the sight of God, Big Kettle apparently was greatly surprised. Throwing himself into an oratorical attitude he recounted a long list of his good deeds and endeavored to make it appear that he was not a sinner. Once he said to Mr. Wright: "Does God overrule all things?" Being answered in the affirmative he continued: "I tell my people so, in council, but when I am alone and think how much iniquity is practiced by the white people in getting away our lands, etc., and how they go on without being punished, I have my doubts." He concluded by saying that the preaching of the missionaries was good, and that the Indians would listen to and follow it; but it would have little effect, for the bad habits of his people were so strong and confirmed that the attempt to break them up would be as idle as to "stop the wind from blowing down Lake Erie."

Cornplanter was the son of a white man who lived in the vicinity of Fort Plank. His mother was a young woman of the Seneca tribe. During the Revolutionary war he led the Senecas against the Amer-

¹ This sketch of Red Jacket was compiled from various sources, but principally from Vol. XIV of the New York Mirror, where it appeared soon after the death of this celebrated chief.

icans in the Mohawk valley, and during one of his incursions he took his father prisoner. However, he treated him well and released him from confinement. In a letter written by this great chief to the government of Pennsylvania in 1822, complaining of the attempt to impose taxes upon him and the Senecas residing on the Allegany, he began as follows:

"When I was a child, I played with the butterfly, the grasshopper, and the frogs. As I began to grow up, I began to pay some attention, and play with the Indian boys in the neighborhood, and they took notice of my skin being a different color from theirs, and spoke about it. I inquired of my mother the cause, and she told me that my father was a resident of Albany. I still ate my victuals out of a bark dish. I grew up to be a young man, and married me a wife, but I had no kettle or gun. I then knew where my father lived, and went to see him, and I found he was a white man and spoke the English language. He gave me some victuals while at his house, but when I started to return home he gave me no provision to eat on the way. He gave me neither kettle nor gun, neither did he tell me that the United States were about to rebel against the government of England," etc., etc.

Cornplanter lived to a great age, having deceased within the last eight or ten years. He was an able man, distinguished in subsequent negotiations. He was eloquent, and a great advocate for temperance. He made a very effective and characteristic speech upon that subject in 1822.

"The Great Spirit first made the world, and next the flying animals, and found all things good and prosperous. He is immortal and everlasting. After finishing the flying animals, he came down upon the earth and there stood. Then he made different kinds of trees, and woods of all sorts, and people of every kind. He made the spring and other seasons, and the weather suitable for planting. These he did make. But *still*, to make whiskey to give to the Indians, he did not make. . . . The Great Spirit told us that there were three things for people to attend to. First, we ought to take care of our wives and children. Secondly the white people ought to attend to their farms and cattle. Thirdly, the Great Spirit has given the bears and deers to the Indians. . . . The Great Spirit has ordered me to quit drinking. He wishes me to inform the people that they should quit drinking intoxicating drink." In the course of the same speech, he gave evidence that he was not very much pleased with the admixture of his own blood. . . . "The different kinds the Great Spirit made separate, and not to mix with and disturb each other. But the white people have broken this command, by mixing their color with the Indians. The Indians have done better by not doing so."¹

¹ Stone's Life of Brant.

CHAPTER III.

From the Discovery of the Hudson to the Inauguration of the Final Contest for Supremacy on the American Continent Between the French and English—Expeditions of Champlain, La Salle, De Nonville and Others—Construction of the Fort at Niagara—La Hontan and His Expedition—The Attack Upon Montreal—Struggle Over the Control of Lake Ontario.

Soon after sunrise on the third day of September, in the year 1609, a small band of one of the aboriginal tribes of America stood at the doors of their rude dwellings on the northern part of Sandy Hook and gazed in amazement and fear at the white sails of a small vessel sailing slowly along the coast in a northerly direction. In abject terror at the strange apparition the savages fled to the mainland and spread among their tribe the news of the mysterious object they had beheld. The vessel, in the meantime, continued on its course, and soon lay at anchor in the water now known as the Lower Bay of New York. It is almost superfluous to add that this strange craft was the little ship *Half Moon*, in command of that daring English navigator, Sir Henry Hudson, who had been engaged to sail hither by the Dutch East India company for the purpose of discovering, if possible, a northwest passage around the American continent. Two days after entering the bay the intrepid explorer landed, but on the 10th of the month he again set sail and entered the noble river which still bears his name.

As the result of Hudson's voyage Holland set up a weak claim to the country extending from Cape Cod to Delaware bay, to which it gave the name of New Netherland. This territory claimed by Holland also extended inland an indefinite distance, and included all the vast unknown West of which the territory embraced within the confines of Genesee county formed a part. Great Britain and France treated the claim with contempt, but Holland nevertheless began the settlement of the rich territory between these two points, making the first permanent settlement on the island of Manhattan.

At this time the Netherlands, which but a comparatively short time before had won their independence from Spain, had fairly entered upon

the heroic period in their history. They had become powerful on the sea. They felt that the right of discovery entitled them to full control of a region of practically unexplored country which since has become the richest and most populous on the American continent. For more than a score of years—despite the threatening attitude of the English and the French claimants to practically all of the soil of North America north of Florida—the stupid Dutch government maintained nothing in the territory it claimed excepting a few trading posts. Then, when it was too late to remedy the condition brought about by its stolid indifference to the menace confronting it, and after having allowed ignorant and most thoroughly incompetent men to manage its affairs in the New World, the government partially awoke to the necessities of the occasion—if it would retain possession of its rich claim.

The English government steadily contended that the Dutch had no right to the territory in question, particularly inasmuch as no well defined plan for colonization had been adopted. The latter therefore concluded that the only way in which they could make their tenure of the territory secure and their title indisputable was by actual occupation. Their next step was the founding of the patroonship system, which resulted in the establishment of colonies on the Delaware and on the Hudson. The latter was successful, but the Delaware colonies failed and soon after the French government had made extensive grants in that region to its subjects. In the meantime the English settlements in New England were encroaching upon the domain claimed by the Dutch. Both the English and French claimed priority of discovery, excepting a limited region near the Hudson, and even this territory the English included in their claim. The advent of the Dutch, as we shall soon see, was the cause of a general awakening to the danger of a conflict of authority on the part of both the French and English.

The French based their claim to the vast expanse of territory in question to the early explorations of Cartier and Champlain. Cartier sailed from France in 1534, just three-quarters of a century before Hudson ascended the river bearing his name, discovered and named the St. Lawrence river, raised the standard of the King of France on the site of the city of Montreal, proclaimed the country to be a possession of the French crown and named it New France. The year following he made another voyage to the same region. In 1540 Francis de la Roque sailed with a commission from his king and made an effort to effect a permanent settlement. But little was done in this direction

until 1603, when Samuel de Champlain began his famous voyage of exploration.

Champlain was a navigator of experience. With several other Frenchmen, he had received the royal authority to form colonies on the St. Lawrence and to explore the country as he should see fit. Fitting out an expedition in 1603, he ascended the St. Lawrence as far as the site of Quebec, where he determined to erect a substantial fort. Soon the fur trade and the enormous profits to accrue to him therefrom became the subject uppermost in his mind. In order to hold this trade for the French he finally decided to join the Hurons and Algonquins in an expedition against the Iroquois tribes of New York, hoping thereby to conquer the latter and unite all the Indian tribes in an alliance with France. Had he better understood the situation and the relations of these tribes, he would have hesitated before waging war against the powerful and warlike Iroquois confederation.

July 2, 1609, Champlain, at the head of a considerable party of French and Canadian Indians, left Quebec and began the ascent of the Sorel river. Here the majority of the French invaders returned with their vessel to Quebec, finding the Chambly rapids impassable with their craft, and left Champlain and two other white men at the head of the Indian band to continue the journey in canoes. Soon they reached the lake which now bears the name of its discoverer. Landing at the south end of the lake, near the site of Ticonderoga, N. Y., they met a body of Mohawk Indians, and the first battle on American soil ensued. Had Champlain exercised discretion on this first expedition and sought to make friends of the Iroquois, the entire course of future events in American history might have been different. But the warlike and revengeful Mohawks, and their fellow tribes in the great Five Nations, never forgot the wanton killing of one of their number by a French musketoon, and when the opportunity came, they and, in later years, their sons and their grandsons carried the war repeatedly into the country of the French and Algonquins, finally forming an alliance with the English for the purpose of wreaking still further vengeance on their hated enemies.

In 1615 Champlain planned and carried out a greater expedition, this time entering the heart of the country of the Onondagas, bringing defiance to all the Iroquois tribes, and spreading death and devastation on every side. On this expedition he discovered Lake Ontario, the name meaning, in the Indian tongue, the "beautiful lake." He ex-

explored its shores along the western border of northern New York in the vicinity of what was afterward known to the French as La Famine. On his return he passed near the head of the St. Lawrence, thus becoming the first explorer of the Thousand Island region.

During the same year in which Champlain made his first expedition into the Iroquois country, and even a day or two before he saw the waters of Lake Champlain, Sir Henry Hudson had entered the mouth of the Hudson river. But before either of these expeditions, the English had begun their attempts to colonize a part of the territory now claimed by both the Dutch and the French. In August, 1606, the Plymouth company sent their first ship to America. The voyage was but half completed when the company's vessel was captured by a Spanish man-of-war. In the fall another ship was sent out. This party remained on the American coast until spring, and then returned with glowing accounts of the new country. In 1607 the first colony was sent out, but it met with disaster. About the same time the London company sent a colony to America, and Jamestown was founded. But it was not until 1620 when the Pilgrim fathers arrived, that the first permanent and successful English colony was founded.

It will thus be seen that at the close of the first quarter of the seventeenth century the English had permanent settlements in Massachusetts, the French had settlements on the St. Lawrence and Chesapeake bay, and the Dutch had possession of Manhattan island and had a fort on the site of Albany. Little was known of the interior country, and each of these nations set up a claim to most of the disputed territory. The Dutch standing between the two fires and being represented in America by ignorant, stupid men, the result was inevitable. Their power was eventually annihilated and the struggle for supremacy narrowed down to the French on one side and the English on the other.¹

Unfortunately for the French, success did not attend their efforts to colonize the region of country to which they had set up a stout claim. But the disappointment of their government was lessened by the indefatigable labors of the Jesuit priests who had come from France to America. In 1615 a number of Franciscan friars had come to America with Champlain, but soon they were supplanted by the more powerful

¹ Though many of the events narrated in this chapter transpired at points far from Genesee county, they were closely connected with the conflict which ultimately resulted in English dominion in this country, whose original territory at one time formed the objective point of a series of frontier struggles. The long struggle for supreme control of this territory and its outcome, have had a great influence in directing the destiny of Genesee county and its inhabitants.

order of Jesuits. The latter arrived in Canada in 1625, and at once began preparation for penetrating the interior wilderness by way of the St. Lawrence, with the purpose of carrying the principles of civilization and the Christian religion to the Indian tribes. As early as 1626 Father De La Roche Daillon visited the Neutral Nation and spent the winter among them. Other priests soon had stations established as far west as the eastern shore of Lake Huron. Champlain died in 1635, and his successors in charge of the French colonies had small capacity for carrying on the great work he had inaugurated. The hostility of the Iroquois nation—incurred by Champlain himself through his early expeditions against the great confederacy—had resulted in the destruction of many of the habitations of the French colonists along the St. Lawrence and the material reduction of the number of its inhabitants at Quebec and elsewhere. Nevertheless, the French had succeeded in establishing fur-trading posts at four points on the Great Lakes as early as 1665. The Canadian Indians being friendly to the French, the missionaries traveled the northern path of the traders in comparative safety.

The English control of Manhattan and the Hudson river region began in 1664, when the Dutch were compelled to capitulate. It was not until 1670, however, that English control of the country hitherto known as New Netherland, embracing Genesee county, was made permanent. But the Dutch continued to be a powerful factor in the fur trade, as well as in the development of the agricultural resources of the territory whose control had been wrested from them; and, moreover, they established the firm foundation on which the higher social fabric of the future was to rest. The English were discreet enough to continue the peaceful relations which their predecessors had established with the Iroquois confederacy, which fact redounded greatly to their advantage when the final struggle for supremacy between the English and French began.

To Robert de La Salle, the most illustrious of the French explorers, his country owed the greatest debt. In 1673 Joliet and Marquette had passed down the Wisconsin river and penetrated the wilderness to the Mississippi, sailing in their canoes on that river below the mouth of the Arkansas river. But it remained for La Salle to determine whether the waters of that great river were discharged into the southern gulf or into the broad Pacific. In 1665 La Salle came to Canada and engaged in the fur trade at La Chine, where the Sulpitian Fathers gave him

an extensive grant of land. His love for adventure was great, and his imagination having become excited by the story of the voyage of Marquette and Joliet, he determined to push still further south in the hope of discovering the desired route to the "South Sea," erecting a line of military posts and trading stations along the route. This, he believed, would give France a still stronger claim to this vast territory.

In 1672 Frontenac was made Governor General of Canada. Their aspirations being of the same nature, it was easy for La Salle to secure the co-operation of the former. Returning to France in 1674, La Salle received grants to large tracts of land about Lake Ontario and a title of nobility was conferred upon him by the king. Returning to Canada he sought a monopoly of the fur trade, but his prosperity and ambition resulted in the creation of animosities on the part of numerous rivals, and in 1677 he again returned to France to maintain his position, and also to obtain aid and authority to complete his plans for explorations in the far west. In this he was successful. May 12, 1678, the French crown granted to him the sole authority over all the western part of New France, with permission to construct all the forts necessary to the accomplishment of his purpose, and a commission for the discovery of the Great River. The commission read as follows:

LETTERS PATENT.

GRANTED BY THE KING OF FRANCE TO THE SIEUR DE LA SALLE, ON THE 12TH OF MAY, 1678.

Louis, by the Grace of God, King of France and Navarre, to our dear and well beloved Robert Cavalier, Sieur de La Salle, greeting:--

We have received with favor the very humble petition which has been presented to us in your name, to permit you to endeavor to discover the western part of our country of New France; and we have consented to this proposal the more willingly because there is nothing we have more at heart than the discovery of this country, through which it is probable that a passage may be found to Mexico, and because your diligence in clearing the land which we granted to you by the decree of our council of the 13th of May, 1675, and by letters patent of the same date, to form habitations upon the same lands, and to put Fort Frontenac in a good state of defence, the Seigniorship and government whereof we likewise granted to you; affords us every reason to hope that you will succeed to our satisfaction, and to the advantage of our subjects of the said country.

For these reasons, and others thereunto moving us, we have permitted, and do hereby permit you, by these presents, signed by our hand, to endeavor to discover the western part of our country of New France; and for the execution of this enterprise, to construct forts wherever you shall deem it necessary; which it is our will you shall hold on the same terms and conditions as Fort Frontenac, agreeably and

conformably to our said letters patent of the 13th of May, 1675, which we have confirmed as far as is needful, and hereby confirm by these presents,—and it is our pleasure that they be executed according to their form and tenure.

To accomplish this, and everything above mentioned, we give you full powers; on conditions however, that you shall finish this enterprise in five years, in default of which these presents shall be void and of none effect; that you carry on no trade whatever, with the savages called Outaouacs, and others, who bring their beaver skins and other peltries to Montreal; and that the whole shall be done at your expense, and that of your country to which we have granted the privilege of trade in buffalo skins. And we call on Sieur de Frontenac, our governor and lieutenant-general, and on Sieur de Chesneau, intendant of justice, policy and finance, and on the officers who compose the supreme council of said country, to affix their signatures to these presents; for such is our pleasure. Given at St. Germaine en Laye, this 12th day of May, 1678, and of our reign the thirty-fifth.

[Signed]

LOUIS.

COLBERT.

Late in the summer of 1678 La Salle, accompanied by Tonti, an Italian, a number of mariners and mechanics, and carrying naval and military stores and goods for the Indian trade, arrived at Fort Frontenac. Here his formidable expedition was joined by Father Louis Hennepin. Early in the fall, accompanied by Father Hennepin and a part of his company, he embarked in a wooden vessel of ten tons burden, crossed Lake Ontario and sailed up the Niagara river as far as Lewiston. Upon the present site of Fort Niagara at Youngstown he established a trading post. Proceeding thence to a spot on the east side of the Niagara river, now the site of the hamlet of La Salle, he built a ship of sixty tons burden, called the Griffin.¹ Tonti and Father Hennepin meanwhile established friendly relations with the Senecas. August 7, 1679, La Salle, having completed his boat, and also having dispatched messengers to apprise the inhabitants of the Illinois district of his intended visit, set sail up the Niagara river, carrying a colony of fur traders destined for the valley of the Mississippi. In Father Hennepin's account of this expedition of La Salle he says:

On the 14th day of January, 1679, we arrived at our cabin at Niagara to refresh ourselves from the fatigues of our voyage. . . . On the 20th, I heard, from the banks where we were, the voice of the Sieur de La Salle, who had arrived from Fort Frontenac in a large vessel. He brought provisions and rigging necessary for the vessel we intended building above the great falls of Niagara, near the entrance into Lake Erie. But by a strange misfortune, that vessel was lost through fault of the two pilots, who disagreed as to the course. The vessel was wrecked on the southern shore of Lake Ontario, ten leagues from Niagara. The sailors have named the place

¹ This ship was built upon the bank of Cayuga creek on the present Angevine farm.

La Cap Enrage (Mad Cap). The anchors and cables were saved but the goods and bark canoes were lost. Such adversities would have caused the enterprise to be abandoned by any but those who had formed the noble design of a new discovery.

The *Sieur de La Salle* informed us that he had been among the Iroquois Senecas, before the loss of his vessel, that he had succeeded so well in conciliating them, that they mentioned with pleasure our embassy, which I shall describe in another place, and even consented to the prosecution of our undertaking. This agreement was of short duration, for certain persons opposed our designs in every possible way, and instilled jealousies into the minds of the Iroquois. The fort, nevertheless, which we were building at Niagara, continued to advance. But finally the secret influences against us were so great, that the fort became an object of suspicion to the savages, and we were compelled to abandon its construction for a time, and content ourselves with building a habitation surrounded with palisades.

On the 22d we went two leagues above the great falls of Niagara, and built some stocks, on which to erect the vessel which we needed for our voyage. We could not have built it in a more convenient place, being near a river which empties into the strait which is between Lake Erie and the great falls. In all my travels back and forth, I always carried my portable chapel upon my shoulders.

On the 26th, the keel of the vessel and other pieces being ready, the *Sieur de La Salle* sent the master carpenter named *Moyse*, to request me to drive the first bolt. But the modesty appropriate to my religious profession, induced me to decline the honor. . . . Finally the *Sieur de La Salle* undertook his expedition on foot over the snow, and thus accomplished more than eighty leagues. He had no food, except a small bag of roasted corn, and even that had failed him two days' journey from the fort. Nevertheless he arrived safely with two men and a dog which drew his baggage on the ice. . . . In the meantime the two savages of the *Wolf* tribe, whom he had engaged in our service, followed the chase, and furnished us with roebucks, and other kinds of deer, for our subsistence. By reason of which our workmen took courage and applied themselves to their business with more assiduity. Our vessel was consequently soon in a condition to be launched, which was done, after having been blessed according to our church of Rome. We were in haste to get it afloat, although not finished, that we might guard it more securely from the threatened fire. The vessel was named *The Griffin* (*Le Griffon*), in allusion to the arms of the *Count de Frontenac*, which have two *Griffins* for their supports. For the *Sieur de La Salle* had often said of this vessel, that he would make the *Griffin* fly above the crows. . . .

After a few days, which were employed by the *Sieur de La Forest* in treating with the savages, we embarked with the vessel, having with us fifteen or sixteen savages, who embraced the opportunity, to avoid a land passage of forty leagues. As they were unaccustomed to travel in this manner the motion of the vessel caused them great qualms at the stomach, and brought upon us a terrible stench in the vessel. . . .

A few days after, a favorable wind sprung up, and *Fathers Gabriel de la Ribourde* and *Zenobe Mambre* and myself embarked from *Fort Frontenac* in the brigantine. We arrived in a short time at the mouth of the river of the *Senecas* [*Oswego*], which empties into *Lake Ontario*. . . . On the 4th of August I went overland to the great falls of *Niagara* with the sergeant, named *La Fleur*, and from thence to our shipyard, which was six leagues from *Lake Ontario*; but we did not find there the vessel

we had built. Two young savages slyly robbed us of the little biscuit which remained for our subsistence. We found a bark canoe, half rotten and without paddles, which we fitted up as well as we could, and having made a temporary paddle, risked a passage in the frail boat, and finally arrived on board our vessel, which we found at anchor a league from the beautiful Lake Erie. Our arrival was welcomed with joy. We found the vessel perfectly equipped with sails, masts and everything necessary for navigation. We found on board five small cannon, two of which were brass, besides two or three arquebuses. A spread griffin adorned the prow, surmounted by an eagle.

We set sail on the 7th of August, 1679, steering west southwest. . . . On the 8th a favorable wind enabled us to make about forty-five leagues, and we saw almost all the way, the two distant shores, fifteen or sixteen leagues apart. . . .

Aug. 11. We sailed up the strait [Detroit river] and passed between two small islands of a very charming appearance. This strait is more beautiful than that of Niagara. It is thirty leagues long, and is about a league broad, except about half way, where it is enlarged, forming a small lake which we called Sainte Claire, the navigation of which is safe along both shores, which are low and even.

Reaching Green Bay, Wisconsin, the Griffin took on a rich cargo of furs and started on the return voyage. After sailing from that point no tidings were ever received of the vessel or crew, which undoubtedly were lost in a storm on one of the lakes. Soon after La Salle and the remnant of his band were obliged to return on foot to Fort Frontenac, a distance of a thousand miles. During his absence Father Hennepin traversed Illinois and explored the Mississippi northward as far as the Falls of St. Anthony.

In 1681 La Salle returned to his station on the Illinois, bringing men and supplies. Another boat was built and launched, and early in the following year the heroic adventurer, with a small band of companions, descended the river to its mouth and entered the Mississippi. He finally reached the waters of the Gulf of Mexico, and after a brief sojourn he started on his return journey. This adventure was one of the greatest exploits of modern times.

Returning to Quebec La Salle immediately set sail for France. That country was now in a state of high excitement on account of the marvelous expedition which the intrepid adventurer had successfully carried out. Vast plans were at once made for beginning the work of colonizing the valley of the Mississippi.

In the meantime De la Barre had been appointed Governor of Canada, in 1682. His brief administration was a failure. In 1684 the Senecas, who had been at war with the western Indians, pillaged a number of French canoes and captured fourteen prisoners. De la Barre was

ordered to invade the Seneca country; but before he did so he sought from Governor Dongan of the province of New York a pledge that the latter would not permit the sale of guns or ammunition to the Iroquois Nation. The English were on terms of friendship with the Iroquois, and consequently Governor Dongan refused to pledge himself to neutrality. De la Barre then made an invasion of the country of the Senecas and Onondagas, but the fiery eloquence of Garangula, a celebrated Onondaga chieftain, so thoroughly alarmed him that he was glad to leave the country. Disgusted with his weakness, his government recalled him in 1685, and Marquis de Nonville was appointed to succeed him.

In July of the same year in which De la Barre allowed the Iroquois to overawe him, La Salle left France at the head of a colony of two hundred and eighty emigrants, in four ships commanded by Beaujeu. His plan was to ascend the Mississippi river and plant colonies on its banks and tributaries. Against La Salle's entreaties the blundering captain allowed the fleet to be carried out of its course, beyond the mouth of the Mississippi. Here a landing was effected and the first colony in Texas planted, on the shores of the bay of Matagorda. After several unsuccessful efforts to rediscover the mouth of the Mississippi, La Salle finally set out overland, with sixteen companions, to cross the continent to Canada. The march began in January, 1687, and on the 20th of March following the intrepid explorer was assassinated by two conspirators in his company.

In the meantime De Nonville, the new Governor of Canada, began preparations for subduing the Seneca Indians, who inhabited most of the territory within the limits of the original county of Genesee. He proposed energetic measures, including the establishment of a strong fort at Niagara and another on Lake Erie, for the double purpose of holding the Indians in check and preventing the English from further extending their fur trade among the western nations. In 1686 he wrote to his government:

War once declared, it is an indispensable necessity to establish and maintain a post of two hundred men at Niagara, where married farmers ought, in my opinion, be placed to make clearances and to people that place, in view of becoming, with barks, masters of Lake Erie. I should greatly wish to have a mill at Niagara.

De Nonville also advised the erection of other fortifications on account of the defenseless condition of the French, insisting that the Iroquois

were powerful and hated the French, and that their ability to procure arms and ammunition from the English made them dangerous foes. He also corresponded with Governor Dongan, insisting that the French had the first rights in Western New York. Meanwhile he had pushed his preparations for invading the country of the Senecas.

June 13, 1687, De Nonville left Montreal with a force of two thousand men, four hundred of whom were Canadian Indians. Arriving at Fort Frontenac on the 30th, he proceeded July 4 to the south shore of Lake Ontario, landing at what is now Irondequoit, Monroe county, where the forces at Niagara had been ordered to meet him. After erecting a small stockade he started for the interior July 12, leaving a garrison of four hundred men to occupy the fort. The Senecas, finding the invading force so vastly surperior, fled before the French, burning their villages before they did so.

The Indian village of Gannagaro, located near the present village of Victor, Ontario county, was the first point attacked. On the 13th they arrived at a defile near the Indian village, where they were ambushed by a considerable force of Senecas. Many of the invading force threw away their guns and clothing to escape into the woods, so great was their consternation. The Senecas finally retreated before the French army, burning all their villages, and sought refuge among the Cayugas. The French remained in the Indian country, however, until the 24th. The deserted villages were entered and large quantities of corn and beans destroyed. The Indian allies of the French scouted the country and tomahawked and scalped those Senecas who fell behind in the flight. In his report of the expedition to the king De Nonville painted his exploits in very vivid colors: but Baron La Hontan, one of his officers, in his account of the expedition, accused De Nonville of cowardice, or at least timidity.

De Nonville was so dispirited with the fright that had struck his men that his Indians could not persuade him to pursue. He halted the remainder of the day, and the next day proceeded on with the intention of burning the village; but the Senecas had laid their settlement in ashes. On the 24th, finding his invasion practically fruitless, the expedition returned to the bank of Lake Ontario.

The four Indian villages which De Nonville visited are supposed to have been as follows:

Gannagaro, as the French called it, or Gaosaehgaah in the Seneca language, near Victor, Ontario county; Gannogarae, in the town of

East Bloomfield, in Ontario county, near where the ancient Indian trail crossed Mud creek; Totiakto, or De-yudihhaakdoh as the Senecas called it, on the northeast bend of Honeoye outlet, near West Mendon, in Monroe county; and Gannounota, or Dyudonsot in the Seneca tongue, about two miles southeast of East Avon.

On the 26th of the month the whole army set sail for Niagara, where it arrived on the morning of the 30th, having been delayed by head winds. There the army at once began the erection of a fort "at the extremity of a tongue of land between the river of Niagara and Lake Ontario, on the Iroquois side." In three days the post was in good condition for defense in case of assault. In his journal De Nonville says his object in constructing this fortification was for the protection of the Indian allies and to enable them to continue the war against the Iroquois. He left a garrison of one hundred Troyes there, with ammunition and provisions for eight months; but they were besieged by the Senecas, and a sickness which broke out soon after killed off nearly the entire garrison.

August 2 De Nonville left Niagara, reaching Montreal August 13, having left one hundred men at Fort Frontenac. The Senecas soon after returned and occupied the territory they had deserted. In opposition to his personal desires La Hontan was directed to assume command of a detachment and accompany the returning western Indian allies. At Lewiston, "where the navigation stops," his men carried their canoes up "the three mountains," launching them again at Schlosser, in the southeastern part of the present city of Niagara Falls. A large body of Senecas were soon upon his trail. From the foot of Canandaigua lake, where they had temporarily encamped, they started for the vicinity of Niagara Falls, for the purpose of attacking the French troops or their Indian allies. The latter had just sailed from Schlosser, when a large body of Senecas appeared on the bank of the river. La Hontan's forces proceeded along the north shore of Lake Erie, and eventually reached the fort of St. Joseph's, relieving the garrison at that point.

During the succeeding winter a party of Huron Indians started for the fort at Niagara, intending to enter the Seneca country and kill or capture detached parties of trappers. On their way through Canada they fell in with a party of Iroquois and killed or made prisoners of the entire party of sixty. When they returned to Mackinaw some of the prisoners informed La Hontan that they were members of the band

which had intended to capture him and his command at Niagara Falls. When they left, they said, eight hundred Indians had besieged the fort at Niagara, and famine and disease were rapidly reducing the small French garrison there.

De Nonville's invasion, the most formidable which the French had yet undertaken, served to aggravate the strained relations between that nation and the English, the latter insisting that the French had entered territory belonging to England. But the French occupation of the post at Niagara was short lived. The Iroquois Indians, thoroughly enraged over the attacks made upon them by the white invaders, harassed the fort constantly, until the French were compelled to sue for peace. In the summer of 1688 De Nonville ordered an armistice and invited five hundred Iroquois to meet him at Montreal to conclude peace negotiations. At the same time a band of twelve hundred warriors were ready to attack the French settlement there if the results of this convention should prove unsatisfactory. The Iroquois insisted upon the destruction of Fort Frontenac and Fort Niagara, the payment to the Senecas of a sufficient sum to reimburse them for the losses they had incurred by reason of the French invasion of their country, and the return of a number of their tribe who had been carried in captivity into Canada.

The French were willing to concede what the Iroquois asked and these stipulations were inserted in the treaty then and there made. But, unfortunately, the peaceful intentions of this convention were foiled by an act of treachery on the part of the Hurons. A chief of that tribe, accompanied by a hundred braves, visited Fort Frontenac for the purpose of assuring the French of his friendship. Reaching the latter place he learned of the friendly negotiations then in progress between the French, his allies, and the Iroquois, his enemies; jealousy prompted him to ambush the band of Iroquois returning from their mission to Montreal, killing many of them and making prisoners of the remainder. His treacherous spirit prompted him to tell the prisoners that he had attacked them under directions of De Nonville. He then liberated the prisoners, who returned to their country and spread the story of French perfidy.

The consequence was inevitable. The enraged Iroquois immediately went upon the warpath for revenge. July 26 twelve hundred warriors attacked Montreal, slaughtered about a thousand of the French settlers and left the village in ruins. This left the French in desperate straits,

and on the other hand strengthened the bonds of friendship between the Iroquois and the English. To this fact, more than any other single occurrence, the victory of the English in their contest against the French was due. The latter immediately abandoned Forts Frontenac and Niagara; and war between France and England having been declared, the allied forces of English and Iroquois wrought havoc among the French settlements in Canada. The enemies of the English devastated Schenectady and a portion of the Onondaga country; but the victory lay with the English. The treaty of Ryswick, in 1697, again brought peace, but for a few years only.

The main point which produced the contest between these two nations—the conflicting territorial claims—unfortunately was not settled by this treaty; and until the boundaries between the colonial possessions of the two countries should be settled hostile operations were inevitable. The Jesuit priests in Canada continued actively to spread their religion among the Indians, giving offense to the English by establishing missions among the Iroquois. The result was easily foreseen. The differences between the two nations grew wider until the conflict known as Queen Anne's War, which began in 1702 and continued until 1713. Before the inauguration of this war the French, gaining the friendship of the Western Indians through the offices of the Jesuit priests, had strengthened their position by the erection of numerous forts and the establishment of settlements. The French considered western New York—the territory subsequently becoming the original Genesee county—a great point of vantage to them; but the English directed their attentions principally to other points. The details of this war are of little interest in this connection. Peace was concluded with the treaty of Utrecht April 11, 1713, France ceding to England Nova Scotia and Port Royal, and agreeing to refrain in the future from molesting "the Five Nations subject to the dominion of Great Britain." Still the most important matter of all—the boundary question—was left unsettled and made another war certain.

Little by little it became evident to the French that the English had determined to obtain control of Lake Ontario. In 1721 or 1722 the latter established a trading post at Irondequoit, and in 1726 one at Oswego. France still claimed the territory. To strengthen her position she erected, in 1726, a new fort at Niagara, on or very near the site of the present stone fort there. The French had objected to the military occupation of the two points on the lake by the English; the latter

contended that the French were going beyond their rights in erecting a fort at the mouth of the Niagara river. The positions at both ends of the lake were of the highest commercial and strategic importance to both parties, as the nation holding both could absolutely control Lake Ontario and the bulk of the great fur trade. Both intrigued with the Indians in the hope of securing their allegiance.

In 1712 the remnant of the Tuscarora tribe was adopted by the Iroquois Confederacy, becoming the sixth nation of that republic. The Tuscaroras originally came from North Carolina, where they had inhabited the country of the Neuse and Tar rivers. In 1708 their twelve hundred warriors inhabited fifteen towns. In 1708 they had a rupture with the colonists, and soon after they were robbed of their lands. Hostilities followed, and many warriors were slain, while larger numbers were made captives. Tired of their persecution and hopeless over their defeats, the remainder of the tribe who had not remained neutral migrated to New York.

In 1744 war was declared involving not only England and France, but Spain and Austria. During the summer of that year the old stockades at Niagara were strengthened, but little else of direct interest in this connection transpired before the peace of October 18, 1748. While there was peace on paper, the conflict in America in reality never ceased. Both nations struggled with intensity to secure the undivided allegiance of the powerful Iroquois. In 1751 the English, probably aware of the fact that their enemies were planning to capture Oswego, repaired the fortifications at that point. While Braddock's stubbornness was leading him into the greatest of mistakes, Governor Shirley of Massachusetts strengthened the post at Oswego, which was heavily garrisoned, built Fort Ontario on the east side of the river, and created a small navy on the lake. In the meantime the French were bettering the condition of Fort Niagara, which had been saved from Shirley's contemplated attack by reason of storms on Lake Ontario. These preparations were progressing during the period of technical peace. The next, and final, struggle for supreme control was not inaugurated until the formal declaration of war on May 18, 1756.

CHAPTER IV.

The Final Struggle Between the French and English for Supremacy in North America—Capture of the Fort at Oswego—Bradstreet Takes Fort Frontenac—General Prideaux's Expedition Against Fort Niagara—The Tragedy of Devil's Hole—End of French Dominion in America.

Before the beginning of actual hostilities in 1756 it had become evident to each party to the impending struggle that the other had been preparing with great energy to make a most desperate effort to maintain its claims in America. At the beginning of the war the outlook for the cause of the English was far from flattering. It was, indeed, ominous. The French had been exceedingly active, and had secured many of the best points of vantage. Niagara had been placed in splendid condition by the French. Abercrombie's expedition against the post was unsuccessful. A few days after the declaration of war Commodore Bradley, commanding the little English fleet at Oswego, started for Niagara, but was soon compelled to return by reason of tempestuous weather on Lake Ontario. On his second expedition in June one of his vessels was captured by the French squadron.

In August, 1756, Montcalm, the successor of Dieskau, commanding the French army of Canada, led five thousand men, consisting of regulars, militia and Indians, against the English fort at Oswego, which Governor Shirley of Massachusetts had left in charge of Colonel Mercer and a garrison of seven hundred men. Erecting trenches about the fort, he opened a terrific fire August 12. The English had but a small supply of ammunition, and were compelled to retreat across the river to Little Fort Oswego, spiking their guns before they left. Montcalm at once occupied the deserted fort, and from it assaulted the lesser fort, killing Colonel Mercer and many of his men. On the 14th the disheartened English capitulated, and the French were for the time being practically masters of the Great Lakes, as well as Lake Champlain and Lake George.

Montcalm destroyed the fort at Oswego after he had captured it, principally for the purpose of showing the Iroquois that the French did

not intend to maintain a military station in their territory. This move caused many of the Indians to turn to the French, greatly to the elation of the latter.

The campaign of 1757 was also disastrous to the English, leaving their enemies in control of the West. In 1758 the English, strengthened by a better organization of the regular and colonial volunteer forces, succeeded in capturing Fort Frontenac.

Colonel Bradstreet, who first suggested the attempted capture of Fort Frontenac, was placed in command of the army assigned to the great task. At the head of about three thousand men, with eight cannon and three mortars, he left Lake George and embarked at Oswego. On the evening of August 25 he landed about a mile from the fort. Within two days he had planted his batteries and opened fire. On the 27th the French commander surrendered one hundred and ten men, nine vessels, sixty cannon, sixteen mortars, many light arms and large quantities of military stores, provisions and merchandise. The fort was destroyed, as was everything else which could not be carried away by the victorious English army.

The tide had turned, and the French were now as despondent as they had been elated. Their anxiety was also greatly increased by the rapid development of the English colonies, whose population was increasing at an entirely unanticipated rate.

The spring of 1759 found the French in a wretched condition. While their crops had failed and there had been no considerable accession to their forces, the numerical strength of the English had become greater and the internal ties between the colonies, fighting in a common cause, stronger. On Fort Niagara the French placed their greatest dependence. The Iroquois had now come out openly in favor of the English cause, and even the courageous Montcalm was discouraged.

Among the expeditions planned by the English was one against Niagara. Major-General Amherst had become commander of the English forces in North America. So successful had the English been that they now planned the complete conquest of Canada. The three strong positions still held by France were to be attacked simultaneously. Quebec was to be besieged by General Wolfe, the hero of Louisburg. General Amherst was to proceed against Crown Point and Ticonderoga, and after taking those places, cross Lake Champlain and join Wolfe. General Prideaux, accompanied by Sir William Johnson, was to have charge of the expedition against Fort Niagara. General Stan-

wix and his detachment was to guard Lake Ontario and reduce the remaining French posts in the Ohio valley.

Early in the summer General Prideaux, at the head of an army of European and Provincial troops and Indians, proceeded to Oswego, coasted along the southern shore of Lake Ontario, and landed at the mouth of Four Mile creek July 6. When this army reached Niagara it consisted of two thousand whites and one thousand six hundred Indians. Despite the fact that it was broad daylight the French knew nothing of the approach of their enemy until the forces had passed the fort and entered the river.¹

July 7 seven English barges appeared near the shore. Scouts sent out by Captain Pouchot reported that fifteen or twenty barges, all told, lay near by, while numbers were flocking on the beach. The following day the English camp on the lake shore was assaulted and broken up. On the 9th the surrender of the position was demanded by the besiegers, but Pouchot sent word to Prideaux that he should defend the post. On the 15th the fort was shelled, wounding several French soldiers. All this time the English had been strengthening their position, from which the assault was continued each day. July 19 General Prideaux was accidentally killed in the trenches by the carelessness of a gunner who was preparing to fire a shell.

The English kept up a regular fire, doing great damage to the fort and killing and wounding many of the garrison. The French were running short of ammunition and many of their arms had become worthless. So desperate had their condition become that they were compelled to resort to the use of hay, straw, and even the mattresses and linen from their beds for wadding for their cannon. By the 24th the French had not more than a hundred muskets fit for use. Reinforcements dispatched to the relief of the fort by Aubrey and Lignery, at Fort Machault and Presque Isle, were driven back by the English. Seeing that further resistance was useless Pouchot surrendered, upon the demand of Sir William Johnson, on July 25, when the victors took possession of the fort.

By this victory the Niagara river, which the French had controlled for more than a century, came under English domination. Quebec, falling before the magnificent assault under Wolfe, French dominion on the American continent was forever at an end. Still Canada was

¹The account of the ensuing operations in this campaign is taken from the memoirs of Pouchot, commander of the French forces at Niagara.

not ceded to England until the signing of the treaty of 1763, so tenaciously did France cling to her colonies.

Immediately after the surrender of Fort Niagara the English took possession of the frontier of Western New York, with the intention of keeping control of a means of communication with their western points. Of all these posts the most important to England, as it had been with France, was Niagara. In 1760 this carrying-place was placed in charge of John Steadman, who was instructed by Sir William Johnson to open and improve the road. This step was highly displeasing to the Senecas who, disregarding the authority of Johnson as superintendent of Indian affairs, united with western tribes in marauding expeditions, pursuing their depredations almost to the gates of Niagara. In these attacks several Englishmen were killed.

At this time the Senecas had no settlements between the Genesee and the Niagara. The English had erected a palisaded fort on the east bank of the Niagara near the east boundary of the present city of Niagara Falls, which they named Fort Schlosser, in honor of its first commander, Captain Joseph Schlosser. Fort Niagara, which had been greatly strengthened, was for the time used as a base of supplies for the West and the growing Indian trade. A few of the Senecas inhabited cabins on the present site of Lewiston, where they assisted the English in transporting goods across the river.

July 24, 1761, Johnson reached Niagara on his way to Detroit. Here he remained for four weeks inspecting the various points on the frontier. He also learned that attempts were being made by certain traders to cheat the Indians, a course well calculated to produce an uprising among them. In 1762 Johnson, learning of the murder by the Indians of two traders who were passing through the Seneca country, informed the natives that any future crimes of this character would be followed by summary punishment. But the Senecas, foreseeing their ultimate expulsion from their country and their extinction as a nation, seemed determined to retard, if not prevent, the encroachments of the whites. The portage between Lewiston and Fort Schlosser, passing most of the way through the woods, was a dangerous road, and soldiers were stationed at both ends to protect and accompany trading teams. Soon after this occurred the terrible massacre at Devil's Hole, a point on the east bank of the Niagara river a short distance north of the city of Niagara Falls. The following old account of what took place at that spot is considered authentic by historians:

In 1760 Mr. Stedman, an Englishman, contracted with Sir William [Johnson] to construct a portage road from Queenston Landing, now Lewiston, to Fort Schlosser, a distance of about eight miles. The road having been completed, on the morning of the 17th of September, 1763, fifteen wagons and teams, mostly oxen, under an escort of twenty-four men, commanded by a sergeant, and accompanied by the contractor, Stedman, and Captain Johnson, as a volunteer, set out from Fort Niagara, with stores, &c., intended for the garrison at Fort Schlosser. Arriving something over two miles from the top of the mountain above Lewiston, and ten or twelve from Niagara, the escort and wagons halted about eleven o'clock, on a little savanna of green sward to rest and take refreshments, beside a gulf called in Indian and English, the Devil's Hole. This is a semi-circular precipice or chasm of some two hundred feet in diameter up and down the river on the summit, but less at the bottom. A little distance from the brink of the hole is a kind of natural mound, several feet in height, also of crescent shape; and sixty feet from the top issues a fine spring, which dashes down through the underbrush to the river. A small brook in the neighborhood, called the bloody-run, now runs into the chasm. The Seneca Indians continued in the French interest at this period, and fearing a hostile movement on their part, a detachment of volunteers consisting of one hundred and thirty men, under the command of Captain Campbell, marched from Queenston to strengthen the escort. Just as the troops under Capt. C. reached the spot where the escort halted, about five hundred Indians, who had been concealed behind the mound, sprang from their covert with savage yells, and like so many tigers began an indiscriminate slaughter of the troops, who were thrown in the utmost confusion. Resistance against such odds did not long continue, and those of the party who were not killed or driven from the precipice with their teams, attempted their escape by flight. In the midst of the conflict, Stedman sprang upon a small horse, and giving the faithful animal a slap on the neck with his hand, it bore him over the dead and dying, and through the thick ranks of the foe, who discharged their rifles, and hurled their tomahawks in vain at his head.

Of those who jumped directly down the precipice in front, some seventy or eighty feet, which has an uneven surface below, only one escaped with life. This was a soldier named Mathews, from whom these particulars were obtained by the tourist. He was then living on the Canada shore, near Niagara and familiarly called Old Britannia. Several trees were growing from the bottom of the hole, the tops of which reached near the surface of the ground. Into one of these trees Corporal Noble leaped and hung, in which position eleven bullets riddled his body. Captain Johnson, of the escort, was killed, and Lieut. Duncan, of the relief, a native of Long Island, and a promising young officer, was wounded in the left arm, of which he died. The whole number of troops and teamsters was about one hundred and seventy-five, of this number only some twenty-five escaped with life, and all of them, except Stedman and Mathews, did so below or near the north end of the hole, at a little sand ridge, which served to break the fall. Of Capt. Campbell's command, only eleven escaped with life. The loss of the enemy was inconsiderable compared with that of the British. A short time after this horrid affair, the Indians, who considered Stedman a charmed man, gave him as a reward for his daring feat, a large tract of land, which embraced all that he rode over in his previous flight. He returned to England,

taking along this favorite horse, and never afterwards would he allow it to be saddled or harnessed.¹

Most other accounts of this treacherous and bloody attack agree with the one quoted in its essential points. Some state that it occurred September 14 instead of September 17, the date given by Mr. Simms; that the escort consisted of twenty-five men instead of twenty four, and that the train was bound for Detroit instead of Fort Schlosser. But these details are of minor importance. Some recent publications state that but eight men are believed to have escaped, whereas Mr. Simms's informant, who was one of those whose lives were spared, puts the number at about twenty-five.

In the meantime Pontiac's war had broken out in the West, the cause being similar to that which resulted in the massacre at the Devil's Hole—the English encroachments upon Indian territory and their defeat of the French. In July, 1764, General John Bradstreet, at the head of eleven hundred provincial troops, started for the west to put down the uprising inaugurated by the wily Ottawa chief. At Oswego his forces were augmented by five hundred Iroquois under Johnson, and at Niagara the army was nearly doubled, three hundred of the additional forces being Seneca Indians. While waiting in this vicinity the erection of Fort Erie was begun.

October 19, 1763, while six hundred English soldiers in command of Major Wilkins were on their way to Detroit in boats, the rear guard, consisting of one hundred and sixty men, were fired upon from the shore by a band of Senecas, who were concealed in the woods about on the site of Black Rock. At the first volley thirteen men were killed and wounded. Fifty men were sent ashore, where three more men were killed and twelve seriously wounded. This was the last serious attack on the part of the Senecas. In April, 1764, representatives of the nation signed a treaty of peace at the home of Sir William Johnson at Johnstown.

From that time to the Revolution comparative peace reigned throughout Genesee county. The trade with the Indians increased at a satisfactory rate, and the Niagara frontier was a scene of great activity. Sir William Johnson devoted much of his attention toward securing a continuance and enlargement of the policy of peace and honesty toward the Indians on the part of the British government. Janu-

¹ This account is taken from Jephtha R. Simms's *Border Wars of New York* (1865). The author obtained the story from the lips of one of the survivors, as appears in the narrative.



ary 16, 1765, Rev. Samuel Kirkland, accompanied by two Seneca Indians, left Johnstown on a mission through the Iroquois country. He remained some time at Kanadesaga, the chief village of the Senecas, spreading the principles of the Christian religion among them. For six years he labored assiduously among the Six Nations, and his services were most valuable in breaking down the feelings of animosity which these nations entertained toward the English.

During this period of peace, Tryon county, afterward Montgomery, was erected from Albany county in 1772. The new county comprised all New York State west of the present western boundaries of Saratoga and Schenectady counties, and of course included all the territory which subsequently was set apart to form Genesee county. Few other events of importance occurred before the Revolution. Little attempt was made to effect settlements at a distance from the trading posts, for the whites still felt insecure from the attacks of the Indians, whom all had learned to distrust. The condition of Western New York, then, was to all intents and purposes the same at the opening of the Revolutionary war as at the close of the long series of conflicts which gave to England the supremacy over France on the American continent.

CHAPTER V.

The War of the Revolution—Expedition of General Sullivan into the Genesee Country—The Seneca Indians Routed—Lieutenant Boyd's Awful Fate—First White Settlement at Buffalo Creek.

The details of that tremendous struggle of the American colonies for independence from the tyrannical, but short-sighted, British government, need no recounting in connection with the brief story of Genesee county's participation or immediate local interest in the war. The causes of this remarkable contest existed even before the echoes of the French and Indian war had died away, and are too familiar to require even a mention in this connection. During all that long period of hostilities, beginning in 1775 and terminating in 1783, no part of the actual contest occurred in the county of Genesee, excepting sporadic Indian attacks. At one time, however, the victorious American army came

as far west as the easterly bounds of the original county, but there paused and retraced its steps. The original plan contemplated the invasion of Genesee county and an attack upon Fort Niagara.

While the Western New York frontier had very little immediate connection with the events of the war, the post of Fort Niagara was an important one from a military standpoint for either of the contesting powers. During the entire war it remained in the undisputed possession of the British.

As during the French and Indian war, the fealty of the powerful Iroquois Confederacy became an object of considerable importance to two nations of white men. The great influence of the noted Johnson family, now led by Sir John Johnson and Colonel Guy Johnson, the latter having succeeded Sir William as superintendent of Indian affairs, was strongly exercised in the interests of the British cause. The result was that all the Iroquois nations except the Oneidas and Tuscaroras allied themselves with the British as against the colonists. The Seneca nation hesitated for some time before coming out openly for an alliance, but the pay promised them by the Johnsons and their natural disposition to go upon the warpath finally converted them. After 1777 they were active partisans of the British crown. It is a matter of record, though not official, that at a council held at Oswego the agents of the British government gave numerous presents to the Senecas and promised them "a bounty on every scalp that should be brought in."¹ But the Americans were equally as active as the British in seeking an alliance with the New York Indians, though not successful in their efforts.

Col. John Butler, the notorious Tory; Joseph Brant, the celebrated Mohawk chief; the Johnsons and other enemies of the colonies made Fort Niagara their headquarters during the period of the war, and frequent expeditions against exposed portions of the country were planned and put into execution at that point. Butler organized the notorious Butler's Rangers, whose very name inspired the hearts of the colonists of New York with terror, and their commander became one of the most conspicuous figures in the border wars.

The massacre of Wyoming, in July, 1778, and the attack upon Cherry Valley in November of the same year thoroughly alarmed the

¹ This is according to the narrative of Mary Jemison, the white woman whose history appears in a succeeding chapter. The truth of her statement has been generally questioned, and never definitely settled.

colonists. On the former occasion a motley band of Tories and Indians under command of Butler entered the Wyoming valley about four hundred strong, on July 3. This locality, unfortunately, already had sent two companies into the Continental army, leaving only old men, women and children, with a small body of soldiers for its defense. The unsuspecting inhabitants were attacked by the invading party, who soon killed and scalped more than two hundred of them. Many of the prisoners were either tortured or slaughtered in the most savage fashion. On the night of July 4, after a number of fugitives who had taken refuge in the fort had been offered humane terms of surrender, the Indians overran the beautiful valley and completed their work of desolation and murder. Nearly every house in the valley was burned and the remaining inhabitants obliged to flee to the mountains for their lives. In this massacre the Indians consisted principally of Senecas.

November 11 of the same year a band of Indians and Tories under command respectively of Joseph Brant and Walter N. Butler, a son of Col. John Butler, descended upon Cherry valley, killed thirty-two of the inhabitants and sixteen soldiers garrisoned there, and carried nearly forty men, women and children into captivity.

Two expeditions against the Indians were now planned. The first of these was made against the Onondagas in the spring of 1779, under Colonels Van Schaick and Willet, but it accomplished little. During the summer a more extensive expedition with the same end in view—the chastisement of the Senecas—was organized. Congress authorized General Washington to send an expedition into the country of the Iroquois, lay waste their villages and retaliate for the wrongs they had inflicted upon the colonists. The expedition was to be primarily for punitive purposes, but the design also embraced an attack upon Fort Niagara, the headquarters of the British and their Indian allies in this region of the country.

The Senecas, being located at a remote point from the headquarters of the American forces, for a long time had been comparatively free from fear of retributive justice; and they were in a position, by reason of their location, to do the patriot cause incalculable injury.

Washington gave General John Sullivan command of three thousand Continental troops, gathered in the Wyoming valley and the surrounding country, and directed him to proceed against the Senecas. The capture of Fort Niagara, which was being held by the notorious Colonel John Butier, was a possibility consequent upon the routing of the

Indians. Reaching Tioga Point August 22, Sullivan was joined by General James Clinton in command of the eastern division, composed of one thousand six hundred men. About a mile below Newtown, now Elmira, the Indians, though strongly fortified, were routed.

The force opposing Sullivan consisted of Butler and his notorious Rangers and a large body of Indians under the famous Mohawk chief, Joseph Brant. The latter consisted of Senecas, with a few Delawares.

August 29, after having laid waste all the Indian country he had traversed, General Sullivan prepared to attack the British and Indians in the position they had chosen to defend. After two hours of desperate fighting, during which Sullivan had so disposed his forces as nearly to surround the position of the enemy, the latter, becoming fearful that they would be hemmed in and annihilated, suddenly abandoned the post and fled. For two miles Sullivan followed in pursuit. The enemy lost heavily, while the American loss was but six killed and about forty wounded.

This victory convinced the Indians that further resistance would be useless, and Sullivan found no further bar to his progress into the Genesee country. As the Americans proceeded, however, they found that the principal villages of the Senecas had been abandoned. Only once again did the enemy make the slightest preparations to impede the progress of the patriot army. Near the head of Conesus lake they selected a position and began arrangements for an ambuscade, but when Sullivan's forces came up the flight was continued as expeditiously as before. Sullivan continued his march, devastating everything that could be of use to the Indians. While Sullivan was constructing a bridge over a creek which led to Little Beard's Town, Lieutenant Boyd and a scouting party had a severe battle with a superior force of Indians in the vicinity of what is now the town of Leicester, Livingston county, originally within the confines of Genesee county. Boyd and a man named Parker were made prisoners, and the former was tortured to death in the most horrible manner. The following account of the incident is taken from Wilkinson's Annals of Binghamton:

From Canandaigua the army proceeded to Hongoye, which they destroyed; and passing by Hemlock lake, they came to the head of Connessus lake, where the army encamped for the night, on the ground which is now called Henderson's Flats.

Soon after the army had encamped, at the dusk of evening, a party of twenty-one men, under the command of Lieut. William Boyd, was detached from the rifle corps,

which was commanded by the celebrated Morgan, and sent out for the purpose of reconnoitering the ground near the Genesee river, at a place now called Williamsburgh, at a distance from the place of encampment of about seven miles, and under the guidance of a faithful Indian pilot. The place was then the site of an Indian village; and it was apprehended that the Indians and rangers, as their allies were called, might be there, or in its vicinity.

When the party arrived at Williamsburgh, they found that the Indians had very recently left the place, as the fires in their huts were still burning. The night was so far spent when they got to the place of their destination, that the gallant Boyd, considering the fatigue of his men, concluded to remain quietly where he was, near the village, sleeping upon their arms, till the next morning, and then to dispatch two messengers with a report to the camp. Accordingly, a little before daybreak, he sent two men to the main body of the army with information that the enemy had not been discovered, but were supposed to be not far distant, from the fires they found burning the evening before.

After daylight, Lieutenant Boyd and his men cautiously crept from the place of their concealment, and upon getting a view of the village, discovered two Indians lurking about the settlement, one of whom was immediately shot and scalped by one of the riflemen by the name of Murphy. Lieutenant Boyd—supposing now that if there were any Indians near they would be aroused by the report of the rifle, and possibly by a perception of what had just taken place, the scalping of the Indian—thought it most prudent to retire and make his best way back to the main army. They accordingly set out and retraced the steps they had taken the evening before.

On their arriving within about one mile and a half of the main army, they were surprised by the sudden appearance of a body of Indians, to the amount of five hundred, under the command of Brant, and the same number of rangers, commanded by the infamous Butier, who had secreted themselves in a ravine of considerable extent, which lay across the track that Lieutenant Boyd had pursued. These two leaders of the enemy had not lost sight of the American army since their appalling defeat at the narrows above Newtown, though they had not shown themselves till now. With what dismay they must have witnessed the destruction of their towns and the fruit of their fields, that marked the progress of our army! They dare not, however, any more come in contact with the main army, whatever should be the consequence of their forbearance.

Lieutenant Boyd and his little heroic party, upon discovering the enemy, knowing that the only chance for their escape would be by breaking through their lines, an enterprise of most desperate undertaking, made the bold attempt. As extraordinary as it may seem, the first onset, though unsuccessful, was made without the loss of a man on the part of the heroic band, though several of the enemy were killed. Two attempts more were made, which were equally unsuccessful, and in which the whole party fell, excepting Lieutenant Boyd and eight others. Boyd and a soldier by the name of Parker, were taken prisoners on the spot, a part of the remainder fled, and a part fell on the ground apparently dead, and were overlooked by the Indians, who were too much engaged in pursuing the fugitives to notice those who fell.

When Lieutenant Boyd found himself a prisoner, he solicited an interview with Brant, preferring, it seems, to throw himself upon the clemency and fidelity of the

savage leader of the enemy, rather than trust to his civilized colleague. The chief, who was at that moment near, immediately presented himself, when Lieutenant Boyd, by one of these appeals and tokens which are known only by those who have been initiated and instructed in certain mysteries, and which never fail to bring succor to a distressed brother, addressed him as the only source from which he could expect respite from cruel punishment or death. The appeal was recognized, and Brant immediately and in the strongest language, assured him that his life should be spared.

Boyd and his fellow-prisoners were conducted immediately by a party of Indians to the Indian village called Beardstown, after a distinguished chief of that name, on the west side of the Genesee river, and in what is now called Leicester. After their arrival at Beardstown, Brant, being called on service which required a few hours' absence, left them in care of Colonel Butler. The latter, as soon as Brant had left them, commenced an interrogation, to obtain from the prisoners a statement of the number, situation, and intentions of the army under Sullivan, and threatened them, in case they hesitated or prevaricated in their answers, to deliver them up immediately to be massacred by the Indians; who, in Brant's absence, and with the encouragement of their more savage commander, Butler, were ready to commit the greatest cruelties. Relying probably upon the promises which Brant had made them, and which he most likely intended to fulfill, they refused to give Butler the desired information. Upon this refusal, burning with revenge, Butler hastened to put his threat into execution. He delivered them to some of their most ferocious enemies, among which the Indian chief Little Beard was distinguished for his inventive ferocity. In this, that was about to take place, as well as in all the other scenes of cruelty that were perpetrated in his town, Little Beard was master of ceremonies. The stoutest heart quails under the apprehension of immediate and certain torture and death, where too, there is not an eye that pities, nor a heart that feels. The suffering lieutenant was first stripped of his clothing, and then tied to a sapling, when the Indians menaced his life by throwing their tomahawks at a tree directly over his head, brandishing their scalping-knives around him in the most frightful manner, and accompanying their ceremonies with the most terrific shouts of joy. Having punished him sufficiently in this way, they made a small opening in his abdomen, took out an intestine, which they tied to a sapling, and then unbound him from the tree, and by scourges, drove him around it till he had drawn out the whole of his intestines. He was then beheaded, and his head was stuck upon a pole, with a dog's head just above it, and his body left unburied upon the ground. Throughout the whole of his sufferings, the brave Boyd neither asked for mercy, or uttered a word of complaint.

Thus perished William Boyd, a young officer of heroic virtue and of rising talents; and in a manner that will touch the sympathies of all who read the story of his death. His fellow soldier, and fellow sufferer, Parker, was obliged to witness this moving and tragical scene, and in full expectation of passing the same ordeal. According, however, to our information, in relation to the death of these two men, which has been obtained incidentally from the Indian account of it, corroborated by the discovery of the two bodies by the American army, Parker was only beheaded.

The main army, immediately after hearing of the situation of Lieutenant Boyd's detachment, moved towards Genesee river, and finding the bodies of those who were

slain in the heroic attempt to penetrate the enemy's line, buried them in what is now the town of Groveland, near the bank of Beard's creek, under a bunch of wild plum trees, where the graves are to be seen to this day.

General Sullivan for some time continued the work of devastating the country of the Senecas, destroying everything necessary to the maintenance of life. The Senecas were completely humbled and subdued and fled to Niagara for succor; but the patriot forces returned without proceeding to Niagara, whose capture might easily have been effected.

General Sullivan's journal of his campaign against the Senecas shows that the aboriginal inhabitants of Genesee county by this time had made considerable progress in the arts of peace. The majority of them had left the chase and turned to agriculture, but fled upon the approach of the Continental army, seeking sustenance at Niagara. In July, 1780, Colonel Guy Johnson, writing to Lord Germain upon Indian affairs, said:

The large body that was to be provided for at this post, during the last winter, in consequence of the rebel invasion, and the destruction of many Indian towns, occasioned much expense, and great consumption of provisions, which I have endeavored as far as consistent with the service, and the Commander-in-Chief afforded his assistance for re-establishing them, and enabling them to plant, as early as he could; to promote which, as well as to forward parties, I have lately visited their new settlements; one on the Ohio route is increasing fast, and I have already induced about twelve hundred of their people to settle and plant these places, which will lessen the burden of expenses.

Buffalo Creek was on the Ohio route referred to, and here one of the principal Indian settlements was located, early in the summer of 1780. The Senecas who settled here were under the leadership of Siangarochti, or Sayengaraghta, an aged sachem, known popularly as Old King. The Gilbert family of fifteen persons, who were captured in April, 1780, by eleven Indians, at their home in Northampton county, Pa., were carried by the Senecas to Fort Niagara. Subsequently some members of the family were taken to Buffalo Creek. One member of the family carried to the latter place was Elizabeth Peart, wife of Thomas Peart, son of the elder Mrs. Gilbert by a former husband. A Seneca family had adopted her, but her child, a few months old, was adopted by another family living near Fort Niagara. Early in 1781 the Indians at Buffalo Creek were compelled to go to Fort Niagara for provisions. She accompanied them to see her child, but on arriving at the fort she learned that it had been bought by a white family. Mrs.

Peart contrived to escape to Montreal with her husband and children. Other members of the family were held prisoners for some time, and the last of them were not released until 1782.

Buffalo Creek being deemed an advantageous point for trade, a number of English located there a short time after the establishment of the Indian settlement. This was the first white settlement in that locality.

From this time to the close of the Revolution few events of more than passing interest occurred within the limits of what afterward became the original county of Genesee. During the winter and spring of 1780-1781 Brant made a few unimportant forays from Niagara, but as the territory in the vicinity of the fort was held by the British and their Indian allies, no important results followed. The Niagara frontier was quiet from this period to the close of the general hostilities; but although peace was declared in 1783, the formal surrender of the frontier did not take place until July, 1796. This facts accounts in a large measure for the late development of the resources of this community by the whites.

CHAPTER VI.

From the Close of the Revolution to the Famous Purchase of the Holland Land Company—Cession of the Sovereignty of the "Genesee Country" by Massachusetts to New York—Sale of the Territory to Individuals—The Morris Purchase—The Holland Land Company Enters the Field—Morris Extinguishes the Indian Titles to the Land He Had Purchased.

The war of the Revolution, while disastrous in its effects upon most sections of the country, was not without its benefits. The country west of the Genesee river received a great amount of advertising as a direct result of the war. A large portion of the American army, drawn from other States as well as from New York, was encamped in or marched through this section on frequent occasions. Before the close of the war "the Genesee country" had become widely known as one of the most fertile and productive tracts anywhere in that section of America which had been thoroughly explored. The officers and soldiers of the patriot army, most of whom resided in the New England States, learned of the character of the land, mingled with the pioneers and in several in-

stances married daughters of some of the inhabitants of the new country. The result was that when the war ended and they returned to their homes they gave roseate accounts of the wonderful farm lands in the region which had sheltered them and of the numerous other attractions, with the result that large numbers of the inhabitants of New England began planning to found new homes in that part of New York which afterward became the original county of Genesee.

With the signing of the convention commonly known as the treaty of Fort Stanwix, which event took place October 22, 1784, the Indian titles to all lands west of the line fixed by the treaty were extinguished, and the red men were guaranteed peaceable possession of the territory east of the line. An illustration of the honesty of purpose on the part of the United States in its dealing with the Indians in those days is found in the case which arose in 1790. In that year the great sachems, Cornplanter, Half Town and Great Tree, complained to President Washington that they were being ill-treated in various ways and that the rights guaranteed them by the treaty of 1784 were not being accorded them. Washington promptly assured them that they would be fully protected in their rights and that the whites would be compelled to observe the provisions of the compact into which they, through their representatives, had entered. For some time thereafter, in accordance with instructions issued by the president, the local Indians had no cause of complaint, though they ultimately were compelled to relinquish control of the lands they and their forefathers had held for many generations.

Soon after the peace of 1783 emigration westward began to assume considerable proportions, for the fame of the Genesee country had spread throughout the Union. Many of the newcomers followed Sullivan's old route as far as the Genesee river, proceeding thence to Lewiston, on the Niagara river. About 1790 or 1791 a road was opened as far west as the crossing at Black Rock. From Batavia this road followed the high ground on nearly the same course as the old stage road to Buffalo.

In 1789 Ontario county was erected from Montgomery. The original Ontario county embraced practically all the territory west of Seneca lake.

In the month of April, 1791, the War Department dispatched Colonel Thomas Proctor on a mission to pacify the Indians in the west, against whom General St. Clair was preparing an expedition. The United

States government had been led to believe that the British, who still occupied the posts on the frontier, had been encouraging the Indians to continue their depredations on the frontier. Colonel Proctor visited the village of the chief called Cornplanter, located on the Allegany. Thence he proceeded to the Cattaraugus settlement, in company with Cornplanter and a number of his warriors. Continuing down the beach to Buffalo Creek he made efforts to induce the Senecas to use their influence to put an end to the Indian depredations in the west. At this time the famous chieftain, Red Jacket, had become very influential, and when he learned Proctor's plans he questioned the latter's authority. Proctor proved to the Indians that he had authority direct from the government, and the next day Red Jacket announced that he would remove the council to Fort Niagara. Proctor objected to this step, and a compromise was effected by the Indians sending to Niagara for Butler. Two or three days afterward Butler arrived, and on May 4 the sachems and leaders met him in council. When the council was ended Proctor prepared for an expedition further west, and Red Jacket announced that the women of his tribe had decided that the sachems and warriors must aid the commission and that a number of them would accompany him on his errand of peace. But the British threw obstacles in Proctor's path, the officer in command opposite Fort Niagara refusing the request of the American officer for transportation up Lake Erie on a British merchant vessel, the chief having refused to make the journey in an open boat. Proctor endeavored to bribe Red Jacket, but the expedition finally was abandoned and May 21, after having spent nearly a month at or near Buffalo, Proctor started for Pittsburg. The expedition had proven a failure.

In 1794 General Anthony Wayne began his famous campaign against the western Indians, completely subduing them. Two years later the British surrendered Fort Niagara and other frontier posts, and the Indians began to understand that their interests would be best conserved by maintaining friendly relations with the victorious Americans. After 1796 their attitude was such as to give the American government little concern. As soon as absolute peace was thus assured, settlers began flocking to the rich and productive region of country of which we are writing, and whose fame had been spread throughout the length and breadth of land.

* Much confusion has arisen in the minds of average readers as to the

meaning of the widely-used term, "the Genesee country." During the Revolutionary war, and as late as 1789, that part of New York State west of a line drawn north from about the site of the present city of Elmira was known as "the Genesee country." The lands were claimed by both New York and Massachusetts, and the British forts at Niagara and Oswego menaced both the claimants long after the close of the Revolution. Simcoe, then governor of Upper Canada, protested against the settlement of the country "during the inexecution of the treaty that terminated the Revolutionary war." The British considered the treaty of 1783 a mere truce, to be followed by the speedy failure of the new republic and the restoration of the colonies to the mother country. Beside the constant menace of the British the country abounded in unfriendly Indians. So bad was the reputation of the entire section that when apprentices were bound or slaves sold it was stipulated that they should not be taken into the Genesee country. In 1788, five years after the signing of the treaty of peace, when Oliver Phelps left his home in Connecticut to go to the notorious country for the purpose of looking after his great claim his friends called him a fool; and a number of the more religiously inclined among them accompanied him to the limits of his town with prayers and tears.

Oliver Phelps and Daniel Gorham, the latter also of Connecticut, had purchased from Massachusetts the entire tract west of "the pre-emption line," agreeing to pay \$1,000,000 therefor. This was at the rate of fourteen cents per acre for the seven million acres. This line ran northward from the eighty-second milestone on the Pennsylvania border to the shore of Lake Ontario. Massachusetts had ceded to New York all political jurisdiction to the territory west of this line, reserving the right of pre-emption. In 1788 Phelps held a council with the representatives of the Six Nations on the site of the present village of Canandaigua, purchasing their right to two million five hundred thousand acres in this tract, the Massachusetts title to which already had been invested in himself and Gorham. He then opened, at what is now Canandaigua, the first land office in America for the sale of virgin lands to actual settlers. But later on these partners in this gigantic speculation met with financial reverses and were obliged to surrender all of the tract the Indian title to which had not been extinguished, and the major portion of it afterward was purchased by the Holland Land company.

It will thus be seen that the original "Genesee country" was a term which included not only the tract eventually known by that name, but

also the Holland tract and other tracts. What was finally known as "the Genesee country," after the failure of Phelps and Gorham, embraced an area of two million two hundred thousand acres. It was bounded on the east by the pre-emption line, and on the west by a line drawn through the "Big Elm" at the junction of the Canaseraga creek with the Genesee river, near the present village of Mount Morris. This line met the Pennsylvania line at the south. Two miles north of Canandaigua now Avon, it turned westward at a right angle, and then followed the course of the Genesee river to Lake Ontario, a distance of twelve miles.

When the war of the Revolution had been brought to a close and the independence of the colonies had been established, a serious dispute arose between the State of New York and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts regarding the territory now comprised in Western New York. Massachusetts claimed the title to this land by virtue of a grant by King James I to the Plymouth Company, made November 3, 1620. New York laid claim to it by virtue of the grant from Charles I to the Duke of York, dated March 12, 1664, and the voluntary submission of the Iroquois nations to the British crown in 1684.¹

At a convention held at Hartford, Conn., December 16, 1786, at

¹ James I. King of Great Britain, in the year 1620, granted to the Plymouth Company, a tract of country denominated New England; this tract extended several degrees of latitude north and south, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific ocean east and west. A charter for the government of a portion of this territory, granted by Charles I, in 1628, was vacated in 1684, but a second charter was granted by William and Mary in 1691. The territory comprised in this second charter extended on the Atlantic ocean from north latitude 42 degrees 2 minutes to 44 degrees 45 minutes and from the Atlantic to the Pacific ocean. Charles I, in 1663, granted to the Duke of York and Albany, the province of New York, including the present State of New Jersey. The tract thus granted extended from a line twenty miles east of the Hudson river, westward rather indefinitely, and from the Atlantic ocean north to the south line of Canada then a French province. By this collision of deserts, each of these colonies afterwards states, laid claim to the jurisdiction as well as to the pre-emption right of the same land, being a tract sufficiently large to form several states. The State of New York, however, in 1781, and Massachusetts, in 1785, ceded to the United States all their rights, either of jurisdiction or proprietorship, to all the territory lying west of a meridian line run south from the westerly bend of lake Ontario. Although the nominal amount in controversy, by these acts, was much diminished, it still left some nineteen thousand square miles of territory in dispute, but this controversy was finally settled by a convention of Commissioners appointed by the parties, held at Hartford, Conn., on the 16th day of December, 1786. According to the stipulations entered into by the convention, Massachusetts ceded to the State of New York all her claim to the government, sovereignty and jurisdiction of all the territory lying west of the present east line of the State of New York and New York ceded to Massachusetts the pre-emption right, or fee of the land subject to the title of themselves, of all that part of the State of New York lying west of a line, beginning at a point on the north line of Pennsylvania, 82 miles north of the north-east corner of said State, and running from thence due north through Seneca lake, to Lake Ontario, excepting and reserving to the State of New York a strip of land east of and adjoining the eastern bank of the Niagara river, one mile wide, and extending its whole length. The land, the pre-emption right of which was thus ceded amounted to about six millions of acres.—Turner's History of the Holland Purchase—Page 25.

which the States of New York and Massachusetts were represented by commissioners, the conflicting claims of the two States to that portion of what is now New York lying west of a line drawn northwardly from the eighty-second milestone on the Pennsylvania line to Lake Ontario, excepting a strip one mile wide the length of the Niagara river on its east side, had been adjusted to the satisfaction of both parties to the contract. Massachusetts had ceded to New York complete jurisdiction over the land, and New York had yielded to Massachusetts the pre-emption or proprietary right. In other words the State of Massachusetts as an individual, held the proprietary title to lands in New York State. The tract in question contained about six million acres.

In April, 1788, Massachusetts contracted to sell to Oliver Phelps of Granville, Hampshire county, Mass., and Nathaniel Gorham of Charlestown, Mass., their pre-emption right to all the lands in Western New York, for the sum of one million dollars, to be paid in three annual installments. This was at the rate of about seventeen cents per acre. The contract required that the payment should be made in a kind of scrip known as "consolidated securities," at that time much below par; but a rise to par prevented them from fulfilling the terms of their agreement.

In July, 1788, Phelps and Gorham purchased of the Indians, at a convention held at Buffalo, the Indian title to about 2,600,000 acres of the eastern part of their purchase from Massachusetts. This purchase was bounded west by a line beginning at a point in the northern boundary of Pennsylvania due south of the point made by the confluence of the Canaseraga creek with the Genesee river, running thence exactly north to the junction of these two streams, thence northwardly along the waters of the Genesee river to a point two miles north of Canawagus village, thence running due west twelve miles, thence running northwardly to a point on the south shore of Lake Ontario twelve miles west of the Genesee river. November 21, 1788, the State of Massachusetts conveyed to Phelps and Gorham all the right and title to this tract, the latter having extinguished the Indian title. These lands included most of the territory comprised within the limits of the present counties of Allegany, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Schuyler, Steuben, Wayne and Yates.

As soon as practicable this tract was surveyed into townships about six miles square, and these townships subdivided into lots, many of which were soon sold to white settlers.

May 11, 1791, the State of Massachusetts sold to Samuel Ogden, as the representative of Robert Morris, all the balance of its land excepting that which Phelps and Gorham had retained. This included about 3,750,000 acres which the latter had been compelled to reconvey to the State, finding themselves unable to pay for the same.

Oliver Phelps was a native of Windsor, Conn. He served through the Revolutionary war, during which he became acquainted with Robert Morris. In 1802 he removed to Canandaigua, remaining there until his death in 1809. He became first judge of Ontario county, and also served as a member of Congress from his district. His son, Leicester Phelps, assumed the name of Oliver Leicester Phelps after his graduation from Yale college. The latter died in 1813. He was the father of the late Judge Oliver Phelps of Canandaigua. Nathaniel Gorham, the partner of Mr. Phelps, was a citizen of Boston, Mass., but never resided upon his purchase. His son, Nathaniel Gorham, became an early resident of Canandaigua, where he died in 1826.

Robert Morris, who lived in Philadelphia, was the great patriot and financier, who had been Superintendent of Finance for the Revolutionary government, and his hand had guided that government in safety through the pecuniary perils which had beset and almost wrecked it. This great tract of land, known in history as the "Morris Purchase," became the original county of Genesee.¹ The east line of the Morris Purchase commenced upon the Pennsylvania line 44.78 miles west of the pre-emption line and ran due north to an elm tree and the forks of the Genesee river and Canaseraga creek, thence northerly along that river to a point two miles north of the Canawagus village, thence due west twelve miles, thence north twenty-four degrees east to Lake Ontario. Soon after his purchase, Morris made a treaty or contract with the Indians residing on the territory he had acquired in which they agreed to relinquish their title to all the land in question excepting a few reservations of moderate area.²

¹ The English translation of the Indian name Genesee is "The Beautiful Valley."

² The tracts reserved by the Indians were the Canawagus Reservation of two square miles, on the Genesee river west of Aton; Little Bear's and Big Tree Reservations of four square miles, on the Genesee opposite Genesee; Squakie Hill Reservation of two square miles, on the Genesee north of Modat Morris; Gardau Reservation of twenty-eight square miles, on both sides of the Genesee, in Caston and Mount Morris; the Careawon Reservation of six square miles, on both sides of the Genesee in Allegany county; the Old Spring Reservation of one square mile, on the line between Cattaraugus and Allegany counties; the Allegany Reservation of thirteen square miles, on both sides of the Allegany river, extending north from the Pennsylvania line; the Cattaraugus Reservation of forty-two square miles, on both sides of the mouth of Cattaraugus creek; the Buffalo Reservation of one hundred and thirty square miles, on both sides of Buffalo

The Gardeau Reservation, which lay partly in the town of Castile, in the southeastern corner of Wyoming county, formerly a part of the original Genesee county, was a tract of ten thousand acres which the Indians conferred upon Mary Jemison, the historic "white woman," who resided upon it until her decease, at a very advanced age, in September, 1833.

Mary Jemison was a remarkable woman. She was born at sea, of Irish parents, during their passage to America in 1742 or 1743. Her parents settled upon what at that time was the frontier of Pennsylvania. One of her uncles was a member of Washington's command, and fell at Braddock's defeat. In the spring of 1755 Mary, her parents, two brothers and several other inmates of the house in which she was residing were made prisoners by a party of six Seneca Indians and four Frenchmen. They were taken to the woods, where every member of the captured party except Mary was murdered. She was exposed to all the hardships and privations of a prisoner until her arrival at a Seneca town, where she was adopted as a daughter into an Indian family. She was treated with kindness, but laid plans for escape; these being frustrated she finally resigned herself entirely to the Indian life and customs. Soon she fell in love with a young Delaware Indian, and married him, becoming the mother of children.

Her Delaware husband dying, at about the beginning of the Revolution, she married a chief of the Senecas, residing in the Genesee valley. Her new husband was one of the most bloodthirsty members of that warlike tribe, but was ever kind to his spouse. Through all her career among the savages she retained her family name, Jemison, and generally spoke the English language; but although her parents had given her careful religious instruction, she embraced the religion of the savages and became thoroughly Indianized—adopting and becoming enamored of all their manners, habits and customs.

Her life was full of incident, with many wild adventures. She was always held in the most exalted esteem by the Indians, as was evinced by the grant of the Gardeau tract, a fertile section upon which she resided until a few years before her death, which occurred on the Buffalo Creek Reservation. In obtaining this grant, or reservation, she showed all the cunning of her adopted people. Thomas Morris, who conducted

the Tonawanda Reservation of seventy square miles on both sides of Tonawanda creek, mostly in Genesee county; and the Tuscarora Reservation of one square mile, three miles east of Lewiston, Niagara county. Portions of some of these reservations are still held and occupied by descendants of the original Indian owners.

the treaty for his father, is reported as having said that when a request for a reservation for the "white woman" was made to him, he supposed that the petitioning Indians meant only a farm of two hundred or three acres; but the woman herself, by artfully indicating certain bounds with which he was not familiar, overreached him and obtained a tract of ten thousand acres, including the whole of what was known as the Gardeau flats and the romantic walls of rock and hill within which they are sequestered.

During the Revolution the house of Mary Jemison frequently sheltered Brant and Butler when making their invasions upon the frontier. In 1775 she attended the treaty of Genesee flats, held by General Schuyler. In 1823 the story of her romantic life, as told by her, was taken down in writing, and was full of incident and adventure. Many of her experiences were very thrilling, and some most pathetic. She never would consent to cast off her Indian costume, even after her home had become completely surrounded by the increasing white population, but to the end of her life she adhered with great tenacity to all her Indian customs. She was wealthy and her thousands of acres were worked by tenants. One of her sons became a physician and obtained a surgeon's commission in the United States navy. Though a woman of unusually marked peculiarities Mary Jemison was humane and benevolent, and her influence, particularly in her latter days, was always employed for the accomplishment of good, principally among the members of the fast decaying Indian tribes residing in Western New York.

In the summer of 1789, the year after the purchase of Western New York by Phelps & Gorham, Oliver Phelps left Granville, Mass., with men and means for the purpose of exploring and surveying this extensive territory. The wilderness was penetrated as far as Canandaigua, then considered on the frontier of civilization. By the assistance of the Rev. Mr. Kirkland, the missionary among the Six Nations, and a commissioner on behalf of Massachusetts, Mr. Phelps succeeded in collecting the chiefs and warriors of those tribes whose warlike spirit still rankled, on account of the chastisement inflicted by Sullivan's expedition. This conference with the Indians was held on a beautiful elevation overlooking Canandaigua lake.

Two days had passed away in negotiation with the Indians for a cession of their lands. The contract was supposed to be nearly completed, when Red Jacket arose. With the grace and dignity of a Roman senator he drew his blanket around him,

and with a piercing eye surveyed the multitude. All was hushed. Nothing interposed to break the silence save the rustling of the tree-tops, under whose shade they were gathered. After a long and solemn, but not unmeaning pause, he commenced his speech in a low voice and sententious style. Rising gradually with his subject, he depicted the primitive simplicity and happiness of his nation, and the wrongs they had sustained from the usurpations of the white man, with such a bold but faithful pencil that the Indian auditors were soon roused to vengeance or melted into tears.

The effect was inexpressible. But, ere the emotions of admiration or sympathy had subsided, the white men became alarmed. They were in the heart of an Indian country, surrounded by more than ten times their number, who were inflamed by the remembrance of their injuries, and excited to indignation by the eloquence of a favorite chief. Appalled and terrified, the white men cast a cheerless gaze upon the hordes around them. A nod from the chief's might be the onset of destruction. At that portentous moment, Farmer's Brother interposed. He replied not to his brother chief; but, with the sagacity truly aboriginal, he caused a cessation of the council, introduced good cheer, commended the eloquence of Red Jacket, and, before the meeting had reassembled, with the aid of other prudent chiefs, he had moderated the fury of his nation to a more salutary review of the question before them.¹

The Revolution resulted in the financial ruin of Robert Morris, and soon after making his great purchase, a speculation in which he hoped partially to retrieve his fortunes, he was compelled to part with his land. In 1792 and 1793 he disposed of most of his holdings to representatives of men in Holland who afterwards became known as the Holland Land Company. The property was conveyed by four separate deeds. December 24, 1792, he deeded one and one-half million acres to Herman Le Roy and John Linklaen. February 27, 1793, he deeded one million acres to Herman Le Roy, John Linklaen and Gerrit Boon. July 20, 1793, he deeded eight hundred thousand acres to the last named persons; and on the same day deeded three hundred thousand acres to Herman Le Roy, William Bayard and Matthew Clarkson.

These tracts were purchased with money furnished by a number of capitalists residing in Holland and held in trust for their benefit, the laws of the State forbidding aliens to purchase and hold real estate in their own names. The State Legislature finally sanctioned transfers of portions of the land, and the entire tract was conveyed by the trustees by three separate deeds to the individuals composing three separate branches of the Holland Land Company. Although these deeds of conveyance were given to three distinct companies of proprietors, their interests were very closely blended, several of the persons having large interests in each of the three different estates. They appointed one

¹ Barber and Howe's "Historical Collections of the State of New York."

general agent for the whole, who conducted the concerns of the tract generally as though it all belonged to the same proprietors, making no distinction which operated in the least on the settlers and purchasers.

The tracts thus sold by Robert Morris became famous as the "Holland Purchase." This sale was made before the Indian title to the land was extinguished, accompanied by an agreement on the part of Morris to extinguish that title, with the assistance of the company, as soon as practicable.

The Holland Purchase comprised about seven-eighths of the entire Morris Purchase, Robert Morris reserving to himself a strip of an average width of twelve miles, lying between the Phelps and Gorham Purchase and the Holland Purchase, and known as the Morris Reserve. The line forming the division between the Holland Purchase and the Morris Reserve commenced upon the Pennsylvania line twelve miles west of the west line of the Phelps and Gorham Purchase, and from thence ran due north to near the center of the present town of Stafford, Genesee county; thence due west 2.07875 miles thence due north to Lake Ontario. This line is known as the "Transit Line," from its being run by a transit, then used for the first time in making surveys.

The Morris Reserve subsequently was disposed of in several large tracts to different purchasers. A tract containing 87,000 acres, lying immediately west of Phelps & Gorham's "mill yard," was sold to Le Roy, Bayard & McEvers, and is known as the Triangular Tract. The Connecticut Tract lies immediately west of the Triangle, and contains 100,000 acres. It was purchased by the State of Connecticut and Sir William Pultney and was divided between them. The Cragie Tract, containing 59,900 acres, joins the Connecticut Tract on the south, and immediately east is the Forty Thousand Acre Tract. South of these are successively the Ogden Tract of 50,000 acres; the Cottinger Tract of 50,000 acres; the Sterritt Tract of 150,000 acres; and the Church Tract of 100,000 acres. A tract joining the Forty Thousand Acre Tract on the south is known as Morris's Honorary Creditors' Tract and contains 58,570 acres. Of these tracts the Connecticut and Cragie Tracts, with the Holland Purchase, occupied all of what is now Genesee county.

Soon after the purchase made by the Holland company, a colony consisting of about seventy German families was sent over from Hamburg to settle on the land acquired; but having lived in large towns these immigrants were unaccustomed to the hard labor necessary to the clear-

ing up and early development of a new country, and rioting followed the first attempt at settlement. After this the company opened an office for the sale of its lands, which were disposed of in this way for many years.

Immediately after the title had been obtained by the individuals or the associations of individuals referred to in the foregoing, steps were taken to extinguish the Indian titles and to survey the tract.

Though Robert Morris desired a speedy settlement of his transactions with the Hollanders, it was not until 1796 that he requested President Washington to order a treaty and appoint a commissioner to represent the United States. Morris's delay in making this application was due entirely to motives of public consideration. His letter was as follows:

PHILADELPHIA, August 25, 1796.

Sir—In the year 1791 I purchased from the State of Massachusetts a tract of country lying within the boundaries of the State of New York, which had been ceded by the latter to the former State, under the sanction and with the concurrence of the Congress of the United States. This tract of land is bounded to the east by the Genesee river, to the north by Lake Ontario, to the west partly by Lake Erie and partly by the boundary line of the Pennsylvania triangle, and to the south by the north boundary line of the State of Pennsylvania. A printed brief of the title I take the liberty to transmit herewith. To perfect this title it is necessary to purchase of the Seneca nation of Indians their native right, which I should have done soon after the purchase was made of the State of Massachusetts, but that I felt myself restrained from doing so by motives of public consideration. The war between the western Indian nations and the United States did not extend to the Six Nations, of which the Seneca Nation is one; and, as I apprehended that, if this nation should sell its rights during the existence of that war, they might the more readily be induced to join the enemies of our country, I was determined not to make the purchase whilst the war lasted.

When peace was made with the Indian nations I turned my thoughts toward the purchase, which is to me an object very interesting; but upon it being represented that a little longer patience, until the Western posts should be delivered up by the British government, might be public utility, I concluded to wait for that event also, which is now happily accomplished, and there seems no obstacle to restrain me from making the purchase, especially as I have reason to believe the Indians are desirous of making the sale.

The delays which have already taken place and that arose solely from the considerations above mentioned, have been extremely detrimental to my private affairs; but, still being desirous to comply with formalities prescribed by certain laws of the United States, although these laws probably do not reach my case, I now make application to the President of the United States and request that he will nominate and appoint a commissioner to be present and preside at a treaty, which he will be pleased to authorize to be held with the Seneca nation, for the purpose of enabling me to make a purchase in conformity with the formalities required by law, of the

tract of country for which I have already paid a very large sum of money. My right to pre-emption is unequivocal, and the land is become so necessary to the growing population and surrounding settlements that it is with difficulty that the white people can be restrained from squatting or settling down upon these lands, which if they should do, it may probably bring on contentions with the Six Nations. This will be prevented by a timely, fair, and honorable purchase. This proposed treaty ought to be held immediately before the hunting season, or another year will be lost, as the Indians cannot be collected during that season. The loss of another year, under the payments thus made for these lands, would be ruinous to my affairs; and as I have paid so great deference to public considerations whilst they did exist, I expect and hope that my request will be readily granted now, when there can be no cause for delay, especially if the Indians are willing to sell, which will be tested by the offer to buy.

With the most perfect esteem and respect, I am, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

ROBERT MORRIS.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., President of the United States.

In accordance with Morris's request Washington designated Isaac Smith, a member of Congress from New Jersey, as commissioner. But Mr. Smith subsequently having been appointed a judge of the Supreme Court of New Jersey, he declined the appointment, and Colonel Jeremiah Wadsworth, who had been a member of Congress from Connecticut, was named in his place. Morris being unable personally to participate in the convention, he appointed his son Thomas and Captain Charles Williamson as his attorneys; but the latter declined to act, on account of pressing private business, and the entire responsibility for conducting the difficult negotiations devolved upon the younger Morris.

It was decided to hold the convention at Big Tree, near the site of the present village of Geneseo. Thomas Morris entertained the principal persons participating in the treaty, and caused a large council house to be erected.¹ Late in the month of August the Indians began to arrive at Big Tree. Of the fifty-two who signed the treaty, many were foremost sachems. The leaders of the Senecas included such noted chieftains as Young King, chief warrior, Red Jacket, Cornplanter, Handsome Lake, the Prophet, Farmer's Brother, Little Billy, Pollard, the Infant, Little Beard, Destroy Town and Blacksnake. There were

¹ In Doty's History of Livingston county it is asserted that the Indian village of Big Tree was west of the Genesee river, but that the historic big tree itself rose from the eastern bank of the river. Some historians claim that the village was east of the river. Both are correct as the village was moved; but it was west of the Genesee at the time of the treaty. Not only does it appear so on the first map of the region made from actual surveys, but in the treaty as agreed upon it was stated that the reservation of Big Tree should embrace the village. Elliott's map of 1801 shows the reservation to be west of the river. The village was moved in 1805, and on the map showing the Phelps and Graham Purchase in 1806, Big Tree village is located on the east of the Genesee. In all probability the council house erected by Thomas Morris stood on the east bank.

two Indians known to the whites as Big Tree. Ga-on-dah-go-waah, sometimes called Great Tree, was a full-blooded Seneca of the Hawk clan and for many years resided at Big Tree village. July 8, 1788, when Phelps and Gorham made their purchase, he attended the Buffalo treaty. In 1790 he went to Philadelphia with Cornplanter and Half Town to protest against what they deemed unjust treatment on the part of Phelps and his associates. In 1792 he went there again in company with Red Jacket and died in that city in April of that year. His daughter had a son whose father was a Niagara trader named Pollard. He became a famous chief, named Ga-on-do-wan-na, and was also known as Big Tree. He was one of the signers of the Big Tree treaty. He was almost the equal of Red Jacket as an orator, but had a finer character, becoming one of the noblest of the Senecas, especially after the death of the famous Cornplanter. He was one of the first Indians at the Buffalo Creek Reservation to become a convert to Christianity, and after his conversion his life was pure and beneficent. He was known by many as Colonel John Pollard. His death occurred on the Buffalo Creek Reservation April 10, 1841, and his body was interred in the old Mission cemetery.

August 22 Thomas Morris reached the Genesee valley. The commissioners arrived four days later, Colonel Jeremiah Wadsworth representing the United States and General William Shepherd appearing for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Among the others who were there were Captain Israel Chapin, who had succeeded his father, General Israel Chapin, as superintendent of Indian affairs; James Rees, later of Geneva, who acted as secretary to the commission; William Bayard of New York, the agent of the Holland Land Company; two young Hollanders named Van Staphorst, relatives of the Van Staphorst who was one of the members of the Holland Land Company; Nathaniel W. Howell, Horatio Jones and Jasper Parrish.

At one o'clock on the afternoon of August 28, 1797, the council was formally opened. The first to speak was Cornplanter. The two commissioners then presented their credentials and addressed the council, assuring the Indians that no injustice should be done them, but that their interests would be fully protected. Young Morris then informed the Indians of his father's desire, and concluded by offering the sum of \$100,000 for the entire tract, allowing the Senecas to retain such reservations as might be needed for their actual occupation.

In order to give the Indians time for deliberation, the council was

then adjourned. Upon reassembling Farmer's Brother replied to the propositions made by Morris, stating that the Indians had various objections to selling. Morris answered the arguments advanced, and another adjournment was taken. Upon reconvening, the famous Red Jacket arose to announce the determination of his people. At the previous session Morris had thoughtlessly remarked, in referring to the small value of the lands while remaining in the natural and unproductive state, that their only value while in that condition arose from the consciousness of their ownership that the Indians felt. In the famous speech now delivered by Red Jacket he admitted the truth of the remark; but added:

That knowledge is everything to us. It raises us in our own estimation. It creates in our bosoms a proud feeling which elevates us to a nation. Observe the difference between the estimation in which a Seneca is held and that of an Oneida. We are courted, while the Oneidas are considered a degraded people, fit only to make brooms and baskets. Why this difference? It is because the Senecas are known as the proprietors of a broad domain, while the Oneidas are cooped up in a narrow space.

For two weeks the question was discussed in all its aspects. The Indians not yet agreeing to sell, the commissioners exhibited impatience and urged upon young Morris the wisdom of more vigorous action. The latter protested, insisting that he knew the Indian characteristics better than his advisers; but so strongly did the commissioners insist that at the next session Morris pronounced an emphatic negative to the proposition of the chiefs, declaring that if they had nothing better to offer the council might as well end. Springing to his feet Red Jacket exclaimed:

You now have arrived at the point to which I wished to bring you. You told us in your first address that, even in the event of our not agreeing, we would part as friends. Here, then, is my hand. I now cover up the council fire.

This decision was received with great applause, and to all appearances the council was ended. The commissioners, realizing how unfortunate had been the results of their interference, now begged Morris to endeavor to rekindle the council fire. The latter acted promptly and with great sagacity. Approaching Farmer's Brother he declared that, according to the Indian custom, the council fire could be put out by none other than by him who had kindled it; that Red Jacket had exceeded his authority, and that the council fire was still burning. The force of Morris's argument was admitted. The latter then called the Seneca women together, distributed handsome presents among them and argued with them in favor of the proposed transfer of the lands.

According to the Indian laws the lands belonged to the warriors who fought for them and the women who cultivated them. While the treaties generally were negotiated by the sachems, the warriors and the women held the right to interfere when the question involved was the sale of land. Morris knew this, hence his diplomatic dealings with the women of the nation present. As the result of his efforts, the women here exercised their inherent right and the council reassembled. Cornplanter, the principal war chief, superseded Red Jacket and conducted the negotiations for the Indians. After a comparatively brief conference the Indians decided to accept the offer made by Morris, and September 15, 1797, the treaty was signed. By its provisions all the land now embraced within the counties of Allegany, Wyoming, Genesee, Erie, Cattaraugus and Chautauqua was sold to Robert Morris,¹ amount paid therefor to be invested in the stock of the bank of the United States and held in the name of the president for the benefit of the Indians.

CHAPTER VII.

The Holland Land Company and Its Representatives in America—Joseph Ellicott, the First Agent on the Purchase, and His Operations—Old Indian Trails—Taxpayers in Genesee County in 1890—Sketch of Joseph Ellicott.

The main office of the Holland Land Company was located at Philadelphia, and the members of the company were Wilhelm Willink, Jan Willink, Nicholas Van Staphorst, Jacob Van Staphorst, Nicholas Hubbard, Pieter Van Eeghen, Christian Van Eeghen, Isaac Ten Cote, Hendrick Vallenhoven, Christina Coster, Jan Stadmitski and Rutger J. Schimmelpenniek. Theophilus Cazenove, the first general agent of the company, took charge of all the business relating to the company from the time of the first purchase of the lands until 1799. Upon his retire-

¹ Certain modern writers who have investigated the subject have produced what appears to be documentary evidence that Morris and the representatives of the Holland Land Company were compelled secretly to bribe the Seneca warriors to induce them to consent to the sale of their lands. It is said that Cornplanter received an annuity of two hundred and fifty dollars as long as he lived as his share of the bribe, while Red Jacket, Young King and Little Billy received one hundred dollars per annum. Robert Morris himself evidently expected that the Indians would have to be bribed, for in his letter of instructions he said: "Annuities of \$200 to \$500 may be given to influential chiefs, and to the highest chiefs \$250 to \$500. Some dollars may be promised before the treaty and paid when finished, to the amount of \$500 or \$600, or, if necessary, \$1000."

ment Paul Busti succeeded to the management, remaining in charge until 1824, a period of a quarter of a century. He in turn was succeeded by John J. Vander Kemp, who remained in control until the final settlement of the affairs of the company.

Joseph Ellicott, an eminent surveyor, was employed by the famous Holland Company to survey their lands and manage the sale of them, his engagement with them dating from July, 1797. He at once took charge of the surveys of these lands, completing them in a little less than a dozen years. Surveying began on a big scale in 1798, after elaborate and extensive preparations. Besides Mr. Ellicott there were eleven surveyors, each of whom was provided with a corps of assistants.¹ A part of this force, under the leadership of John Thompson, proceeded westward over the usual route to Buffalo, where a portion of their outfit was left for use on the western part of the purchase. The remainder was taken to Williamsburg, on Genesee river, where a storehouse for the use of the surveyors had been built. At the start these two points were the principal depots for the surveyors; but before the end of the year Mr. Ellicott, who had personally surveyed the Transit Line, made the principal headquarters at the point on that line known as the Transit storehouse. The Transit Line extended from Pennsylvania to Lake Ontario, forming the basis for the future surveys and divisions of the territory. These surveys were continued until the whole territory was divided into ranges and townships. The ranges were numbered from east to west and the townships from south to north.

The first plan of the agent of the company was to divide each township, which was six miles square, into sixteen portions, one and a half miles square, to be called sections, and to subdivide each section into twelve lots, each lot to be three-quarters of a mile long (generally north and south) and one-quarter of a mile wide, containing about one hundred and twenty acres each. It was presumed that many wealthy farmers would purchase one section each, while those possessed of moderate capital would content themselves with the smaller farms. The surveys of twenty-four townships were begun in

¹ The principal surveyors engaged during the active season of 1798 in township, meridian line and reservation surveys and in lake and river traverses, were as follows: Joseph and Benjamin Ellicott, John Thompson, Richard M. Stoddard, George Burgess, James Dewey, David Ellicott, Aaron Oakford, jr., Augustus Porter, Seth Pease, James Smalley, William Shepherd, George Eggleston. In addition to these were two Frenchmen, Messrs. Harle and Aubrey, who were employed in some surveys of Niagara river and the falls. The last were rather engineers than surveyors.—Turner's History of the Holland Purchase, page 95.

conformity to this plan, although the surveyors departed from the uniformity of the size and shape of the lots where large streams like the Tonawanda creek, running through townships, were made convenient boundaries of lots.

From experience, however, it was ascertained that, in the purchase of land, each individual, whether father, son or son-in-law, would locate himself according to his own choice or fancy. That this formal and regular division of land into farms, seldom was found to be in conformity to the topography of the country, nor to the different requirements as to quantity, likewise that the addition of sections to townships and lots, rendered the descriptions of farms more complex, and increased the liability to err in defining any particular location; for which reasons, the practice of dividing townships into sections was abandoned, and thereafter, the townships were simply divided into lots of about sixty chains or three fourths of a mile square, which could be divided into farms to suit the topography of the land and quantity required by the purchasers. In those townships in which the surveys had been commenced to divide them into sections, and not completed, the remaining sections were divided into four lots only of three-fourths of a mile square each. These lots consequently contained about three hundred and sixty acres each, but could not be laid off exactly uniform in shape and area.¹

When the survey of the Holland Purchase began in the spring of 1798, all travel westward to Buffalo was along the ancient Indian trail. During the preceding winter, however, the State Legislature had appointed Charles Williamson a commissioner to lay out and open a State road from the Genesee river to Buffalo Creek and to Lewiston. The Holland Company subscribed \$5,000 toward defraying the expense of constructing this road. Mr. Williamson began his task in the summer of 1798, following the Indian trails as closely as possible. Mr. Ellicott, with the aid of a party of Senecas, opened the first wagon road early in the season as a preliminary to the work of the survey, improving the trail from the East Transit to Buffalo Creek to an extent that made it passable for wagons. The construction of this road was undertaken thus early for the purpose of providing a good highway to those who might settle on the lands of the company. That the managers of the company's business appreciated the value of such a road is evident from the following extract of a letter from Paul Busti, who in 1799 succeeded Theophilus Cazenove as agent of the company, to Mr. Ellicott, dated August 15, 1800:

The opening of communication through the country, is a matter deemed of such importance, that it will not escape your attention, and that the application of money for that purpose has been appropriated on a much larger scale than you thought

¹ Turner's History of the Holland Purchase, page 46.

necessary. By extending the amount of expenditures on that head, I mean to evince to you how much I am persuaded of the usefulness of having practicable roads cut out. You will have to take care that the roads to be laid out at present, are to be cut in such a direction as to become of general advantage to the whole country.

The old Indian trail, on which the principal part of this road was built, crossed the Genesee at Avon, passed thence through Batavia and down the north side of Tonawanda creek, entering Erie county at the Tonawanda Indian village; from there it crossed the site of Akron, passed through Clarence Hollow and Williamsville to Cold Spring, and thence followed nearly on the line of Main street, in Buffalo, to the creek. A branch continued to Black Rock, where the river was crossed. Another branch extended from Clarence to Lancaster and ran thence along Cayuga creek to the Seneca Indian village. Another trail extended from Little Beard's Town, on the Genesee, to the boundary of Erie county near the southeast corner of the town of Alden and continued westerly to the Seneca village. There were also trails up Canenove and Eighteen Mile creeks and between Cattaraugus and Buffalo villages.

As late as the summer of 1799 no house had been built on the road from the East Transit Line to Buffalo. To remedy this situation, June 1, 1799, Paul Busti authorized Mr. Ellicott to induce six persons to locate on the highway about ten miles apart and to open taverns, in consideration of which each was to receive from fifty to one hundred and fifty acres of land at a low price and liberal terms of payment.

In accordance with the offer of Mr. Ellicott three persons immediately grasped the opportunity presented. Frederick Walthers took one hundred and fifty acres, including the East Transit storehouse and the site of the village of Stafford. Soon afterward Asa Ransom of Buffalo located on a one hundred and fifty acre tract at Clarence Hollow.¹ September 16, Garritt Davis took one hundred and fifty acres east of and adjoining the Tonawanda Reservation. These three persons at once erected houses for the accommodation of the traveling public.

As soon as Mr. Ransom had erected his tavern, at "Pine Grove," as it soon became known, Mr. Ellicott made it his headquarters. His ap-

¹ Harry B. Ransom, who was born in the house built here in November, 1799, was the first white male child born in that part of the original Genesee county, now Erie county. Mr. Ellicott made Ransom's house his headquarters as soon as it had been constructed. Elias Ransom built a frame house on the road from Batavia to Buffalo, seven miles east of the first place which was probably the first frame building west of Batavia. The three public houses referred to in the text were constructed of logs.

pointment as local agent of the company took effect October 1, 1800, at which time he began the sales of land. His office was located in one end of Ransom's tavern. James W. Stevens of Philadelphia acted as his clerk, and occasionally Mr. Brisbane assisted in the work of the office, though the latter spent most of his time at the Transit store-house. January 16, 1801, Mr. Ellicott wrote to Mr. Busti as follows:

I have the satisfaction to inform you (although after a disagreeable journey) that I arrived here in good health the 1st instant, since which period I have been busily employed in making arrangements for the sale of the Land placed under my charge. The season of the year being such as to prevent persons from making their establishments, prevents me at present from effecting any *bona fide* sales. Settlers generally wishing to defer entering into articles before they are able to commence their improvements. I have, however, abundant reason to conclude, that at the opening of Spring I shall effect the sale of considerable land.

May 7 of the same year Mr. Ellicott, writing to Le Roy and Bayard, says:

In respect to sales of land, we have not as yet made rapid progress. The best and most eligible situations are only in demand. However, we dispose of more or less almost every day. Settlements form more rapidly on the east side of the Purchase than on the west, owing to its contiguity to the old settlement in the Genesee, where provisions and necessaries for their beginning is more easily attainable. However, there are some going on the western side, and I continue to live under the expectation of selling a considerable quantity of lands in the course of the summer and fall, and presume after this season the sales will increase, the ice will then be broken, and conveniences will be had for settlers on the Purchase.

The survey of the Holland Purchase into townships was concluded in 1800, by which time several of them had been divided into lots. In the same year Mr. Ellicott, while on a visit to the East, had printed a number of hand bills headed "Holland Company West Genesee Lands," in which he portrayed the attractions of the territory and announced that it was for sale on reasonable terms.¹

¹ A portion of this handbill reads as follows:

"The Holland Land Company will open a Land Office in the ensuing month of September, for the sale of a portion of their valuable lands in the Genesee country, State of New York situate in the last purchase made of the Seneca Nation of Indians, on the western side of Genesee river. For the convenience of applicants, the Land Office will be established near the centre of the lands, intended for sale and on the main road, leading from the Eastern and Middle States to Upper Canada, Presque Isle in Pennsylvania, and the Connecticut Reserve. These lands are situate, a joining and contiguous, to the lakes Erie, Ontario, and the straits of Niagara, possessing the advantage of the navigation and trade of all the Upper lakes, as well as the river Saint Lawrence, from which the British settlements derive great advantage; also intersected by the Allegany river, navigable for boats of 20 or 30 tons burthen, to Pittsburgh and New Orleans, and contiguous to the navigable waters of the west branch of the Susquehanna river, an almost unsurpassable by settlements, where provision of every kind is to be had in great abundance and on

In May, 1801, acting as the special agent of Le Roy and Bayard, he employed Richard M. Stoddard to survey the Triangular Tract, giving explicit directions, particularly as to laying off five hundred acres at "Buttermilk Falls." In a letter to Mr. Munger, at the Transit store house, dated at Ransom's in May, 1801, he states that he has been informed that "the inhabitants of your neighborhood have undertaken to open the road to Ganson's. You will please consider me a subscriber toward the expense of the undertaking."

For a period of more than twenty years Mr. Ellicott had practically exclusive control of the local business of the Holland Company. Under his management an immense tract of wilderness was converted into one of the finest agricultural regions in the world. He was identified with all the enterprises of Western New York, and in the construction of the Erie canal he took a great interest. Paul Busti, who had succeeded Cazenove as general agent at Philadelphia, managed the general affairs of the company with great shrewdness and ability for a period of twenty-four years.

In 1874 David Seaver of New York, in an article contributed to the *Batavia Spirit of the Times*, gives a synopsis of a work published in 1795 by Rochefoucauld Liancourt, a French adventurer or traveler, who prior to that time had made a journey from Philadelphia through Western New York as far as Niagara Falls. After describing his meeting with Red Jacket, the noted Indian chief, Liancourt says:

The road from Ontario to Canawago (Canawaugus) is a good one for this country,

reasonable terms renders the situation of the Holland Land Company Genesee Lands more eligible, desirable, and advantageous for settlers than any other unsettled tract of inland country of equal magnitude in the United States. The greater part of this tract is finely watered (few exceptions) with never failing springs and streams, affording sufficiency of water for gristmills and other water works. The subscriber, during the years 1798 and 1799 surveyed and laid off the whole of these lands into townships, a portion of which, to accommodate purchasers and settlers, is now laying off into lots and tracts from 120 acres and upward, to the quantity contained in a township.

The lands abound with limestone, and are calculated to suit every description of purchasers and settlers. Those who prefer land timbered with black and white oak, hickory, yellow chestnut, wild cherry, butternut and dogwood, or the more luxuriant timbered with basswood or lynn, butternut, sugar-tree, white ash, wild cherry, cucumber tree, cespitose of the magnolia and black walnut, may be suited. Those who prefer level land, or gradually ascending, affording extensive plains and valleys, will find the country adapted to their choice. In short, such are the varieties of situations in this part of the Genesee country, every where almost covered with a rich soil, that it is presumed that all purchasers who may be inclined to participate in the advantages of these lands, may select lots from 120 acres to tracts containing 100,000 acres, that would fully please and satisfy their choice. The Holland Land Company, whose liberality is so well known in this country, now offer to all those who may wish to become partakers of the growing value of these lands, such portions and such parts as they may think proper to purchase. Those who may choose to pay cash will find a liberal discount from the credit price."

but as usual it leads through the midst of the woods, and within a space of 12 miles we saw only one habitation. In this journey we discovered two Indians lying under a tree; though we had seen a considerable number of them, yet this meeting had for us an attraction of novelty, as we found them in a state of intoxication which scarcely manifested the least symptoms of life. One wore around his neck a long and heavy silver chain, from which a large medallion was suspended; on one side whereof was the image of George Washington, and on the other the motto of Louis XIV., *ex pluribus impar*, with the figure of the sun, which was usually displayed with it in the French army. This Indian, no doubt, was his excellency in a ditch, out of which we made repeated efforts to drag him, but in vain. . . .

Canawago is a small town, the inhabitants few, but Mr. Berry keeps there one of the best inns we have seen for some time.

Wednesday, June 17th, 1795. After remaining half a day at Canawago, we at length set out to traverse the *deserts*, as they are called. A journey through uninterrupted forests offers but little matter for speculation or remark; the woods are in general not close, but stand on fruitful soil. The route is a footpath, tolerably good upon the whole, but in some places very miry; winding through the forests over a level ground that rises but seldom into gentle swells. After a ride of 12 hours, in which we have crossed several large creeks (Oatka and Black), we arrived at Big Plains (Oakfield), which is 38 miles distant from Canawago. We breakfasted at Buttermilk Fall (LeRoy), and dined on the bank of the Tonawago (Batavia), and for both these meals our appetites were so keen that perhaps we never ate anything with a better relish.

Liancourt then describes his visit to the tribe of Indians which then had a small village at Tonawago.

In another contribution to the same paper Mr. Seaver gives extracts from a book written by John Maule, and printed in London, wherein the writer describes his experiences during a journey over practically the same route followed by Liancourt, but made five years afterward. Maule stopped for a while at Canawaugus, whence he proceeded on his journey August 20, 1800, accompanied by an Indian named Hot Bread. He arrived at Ganson's, now Le Roy, at eleven o'clock in the morning, where he made the following entry in his journal:

When my friend L. passed this place last year, Ganson's was a solitary house in the wilderness, but it is now in the midst of a flourishing township, in which 21 families are already settled. A new tavern and a number of dwelling houses are building. Two hundred and ninety-eight miles; recross Allen's creek, the bed a flat limestone rock, 15 or 20 rods wide, with three or four inches of water; a handsome bridge was building. This creek is the western terminus of Capt. Williamson's purchase (Pultney tract). A very handsome road four rods wide has been cut, and the whole distance from Genesee River to Ganson's being 12 miles in nearly a straight line. I now entered into what is called the Wilderness, but at 2 p. m. reached the Holland Company's storehouse and Frederick Walther's tavern (Stafford), 304½ miles.

The Holland Company consists of a number of merchants and others, principally residents in Holland, who purchased a very large tract of Mr. Morris. This territory, for such it may be called, is on the east bounded by Williamson's purchase, and on the west by Lake Erie and Niagara River. No part of the land is, I believe, yet settled, but at present under survey for that purpose. One of the principal surveyors and his gang were at the tavern, and fully occupied the lodging hut, this, with the additional circumstance of there being no hay for my horses, and no other feed than oats, cut green in the straw, induced me to give up the design of sleeping here this night, but rather to push on to the next station. . . . At 4 1/2 m. we left Walther's, and at 309 miles (Batavia) fell in with the Tonawantee Creek, sluggish, shallow and broad. At 6 1/2 p. m. we reached Garret Davis's tavern, 316 miles (Winan's farm near Dunham's Corners) near a small run of good water. This is one of those three stations which the Holland Company has this year established for the accommodation of travelers, who hitherto have been obliged to sleep in the woods. Davis first began to ply his axe in January last; he has now a good log house, a field of green oats (sowed 18th of June, the only feed I could get for my horses), and a very excellent garden, the most productive of any of its size I have seen since leaving New York. He had also cleared a pretty extensive field for wheat. On this land the logs were now burning, and I passed a greater part of the night in making up the fires. This employment I preferred to harbouring with a number of strangers, one of whom was sick and not expected to live till morning. This, however, was only the fearful conjecture of Davis. I got got some maple sugar for my tea, and Mr. and Mrs. Davis paid me every possible attention, but I cannot praise them for neatness. Perhaps I ought not to expect it: when the peculiarity of the situation and a large family of children are taken into account. From Allen's Creek to Walther's was excellent lands, but miserable roads, at times impassable, and the wagoner would take his axe to cut a new passage. From Walther's to Davis's the road is better. At Davis's the woods are composed of small, tall saplings, closely crowded. This morning we experienced a very keen frost with a bright sun, and so late as 11 a. m. I stood in the sun to warm myself, my hands being benumbed with the cold. Very scorching sun in the afternoon after leaving Walther's, and troublesome flies and mosquitoes.

Thursday, August 21, 1800. Start at day light, 318 miles; we leave the thick woods and enter upon the Big Plains. These plains (Oak-field) are open groves of oak, in a light shallow soil on limestone. . . . These plains are many miles in extent, and it struck me I had seen park grounds in England much like them. At 321 miles the oaks are smaller and more compact, and at 322 miles we enter the woods of beech and maple. At 7 1/2 a. m. we reached the Indian town of Tonawantee, 330 miles. This settlement is on the west bank of the creek, which I now crossed for the second time. It bore, however, a different character here than at 319 miles (Batavia), being clear and rapid.

Left Tonawantee and passed through open plains of oaks with less of tamarisk and more grass to 334 miles, where I fell in with the old road. At 10.30 a. m. reached Asa Ransom's station, distance 344 miles (Clarence, Erie county). I was here greatly surprised with an excellent breakfast of tender chicken and good loaf-sugar for my tea. Ransom, like Davis, sat down in the woods in January; he has 150 acres, ten acres cleared and in oats. . . . The Holland Company has laid out a new road from Ganson's to Buffalo Creek, which passes to the south of Davis's

station, but in with the present road at Ransom's, and this new road will make a difference of 10 miles in 42. Ransom informed me that by an account, he had kept, no less than 155 families with their wagons have passed his house this summer, emigrating from Pennsylvania and New Jersey to Canada. Sixteen wagons passed in one day.

In the office of the secretary of state at Albany is the original map of the famous Holland Land Company's tract. This map is about eight feet square, the scale being half an inch to the mile. The eastern boundary—the Transit Line run in 1798—starts on the Pennsylvania line, at the southeast corner of the Willink Purchase, and runs directly northward, crossing the Genesee river "at 21 miles going northwest and at 33 miles going northeast," reaching Lake Ontario at a place known as "the Devil's Nose."

The ranges, averaging about six miles in width, have boundaries parallel with the Transit Line. They begin six miles west of that line, and are numbered to the westward from one to fifteen inclusive. The townships run from south to north, beginning at the Pennsylvania line, and average six miles square. No range has more than sixteen townships and when the western end of the State is reached (in what is now Chautauqua county) there are but three townships in the fifteenth range.

Between the seventh and eighth ranges a strip about two miles wide runs from the Pennsylvania line northward to Lake Ontario. It pierces the present counties of Cattaraugus, Erie and Niagara, and on the map is marked as the property of Wilhelm and Jan Willink. The same persons are also credited with ten townships in the eastern and southern parts of the present Allegany county. Between the first range and the Transit Line is a strip about six miles wide running from Pennsylvania to Lake Ontario. This is assigned, with the respective number of acres named, to the following persons: J. Sterrett, 5,000 acres; A. Hamilton, 100,000; Cottinger, 39,784; Ogden, 33,784; Cragie, 3,375; Watson Cragie, 100,000. The lands of Sterrett and Hamilton are in the present county of Allegany; those of Cottinger and Ogden in Wyoming; that of Cragie in Genesee, and that of Watson Cragie in Orleans.

East of the Transit Line are two parcels of land. The first of these, located in the present county of Allegany, has one hundred and fifty thousand acres, credited to S. Sterrett. The second is a triangle of seventy six thousand one hundred and seventy-three acres, assigned to Le Roy, Bayard and McEvers. The northern boundary of this triangle

is Lake Ontario, the western the Transit Line, and the third a diagonal beginning at the intersection of the southern line of the Phelps and Gorham Purchase with the Transit Line, near the present village of Le Roy, and running northeasterly until it reaches Lake Ontario. The slanting boundaries of the eastern townships of Genesee county and of the western townships of Monroe county are laid along this diagonal line.

All that part of the State was known to the province of New York as Tryon county, but after 1784 it was called Montgomery county. All to the west of the "pre-emption line" was erected into Ontario county in 1788, and the present western counties have been taken from the original territory of Ontario county since that date.

The extent to which the early settlement of the territory west of the Genesee river had reached, during the closing years of the eighteenth century, is illustrated by reference to the following tax roll, the first one made for this territory (then all included in the great town of Northampton). About fifteen names are missing from the first page of the roll, which bears date of October 6, 1800:

	Value of Real and Personal Estate	Amount of Tax.
Curtis, William.....	\$ 30	\$.06
Carter, William.....	94	.19
Chamberlin, Hinds.....	284	.40
Curtis, Augustus.....	500	.61
Curtis, Jonathan.....	387	.54
Campbell, Peter.....	52	.09
Chapin, Henry.....	3,000	6.50
Chapman, Asa.....	112	.23
Cumins, Joseph.....	20	.01
Conatt, Samuel.....	38	.06
Chamberlin, Joshua.....	60	.12
Cary, Joseph.....	948	1.61
Coats, Timothy.....	396	.54
Dugan, Christopher.....	1,306	1.63
Douglas, Cyrus.....	78	.14
Davis, Daniel.....	572	.72
Davis, Garrett.....	350	.45
Davis, Bela.....	105	.22
Davis, Samuel.....	312	.37
Elliott, Benjamin.....	600	.71
Fish, Josiah.....	1,516	1.86
Farewell, Elisha.....	288	.37
Fuller, David.....	80	.12

	Value of Real and Personal Estate.	Amount of Tax.
Forsyth, John	330	.43
Granger, Eli	100	.14
Goodhue, George	175	.20
Ganson, John, jr	1,640	2.10
Ganson, James	12	.02
Griffith, Eli	658	.98
Hencher, William	1,036	1.64
Hicks, Samuel	41	.09
Heth, Reuben	40	.09
Hunt, Elijah	68	.14
Harris, Alpheus	72	.15
Hall, Friend	200	.30
Hunt, Joseph	64	.13
Hopkins, Timothy	42	.09
Hayne, John	50	.11
Hawley, Chapman	112	.18
Hall, Gilbert	370	.52
Heit, Stephen	153	.34
Jones, H. John	140	.23
Jones, Elizabeth	153	.24
Johnson, Moses	800	1.07
Johnson, William	2,034	3.50
Kith, M. Michael	42	.09
Kimball, John	700	1.03
Kert, Elijah	96	.14
Lane, Ezekiel	114	.24
Laybourn, Christopher	470	.62
Lyon, John	40	.08
Leonard, Jonathan	40	.06
Lewis, Seth	60	.14
Mells, William	714	.94
Mills, Lewis	72	.16
Mills, Alexander	80	.19
Mills, Samuel	250	.30
Morton, Simeon	50	.11
Mading, Timothy	128	.16
McCloning, John	40	.09
McCloning, John, jr	12	.02
Middaugh, Martin	45	.09
Mayle, Lewis	30	.09
—, —	84	.19
Mulkins, Henry	54	.11
Nettleton, Philemon	592	.80
Morgan, Joseph	870	1.11
McNaughton, John	48	.11

	Value of Real and Personal Estate.	Amount of Tax.
McPherson, Dan.....	100	.22
Patterson, Lawrence.....	500	.90
Pebody, Stephen.....	86	.15
Palmer, John.....	482	.72
Pangman, William.....	300	.66
Quivey, Norton.....	70	.15
Redford, John.....	130	.19
Khan, Alexander.....	85	.12
Stunson, Leonard.....	52	.11
Stimson & Jones.....	200	.29
Stoughton, Amaziah.....	164	.21
Sheffer, Peter.....	4,260	5.36
Scott, Isaac.....	1,105	1.45
Shelly, Phiros.....	150	.18
Scott, Salmon.....	796	.95
Scoonover, Jacob.....	731	1.00
Thompson, Adriaender.....	30	.07
Utley, Asa.....	901	1.17
Olmstead, Jeremiah.....	120	.29
Wilber, Charles.....	60	.31
Walther, Frederick.....	488	.68
Wemple, Henry.....	27	.17
.....	42	.10
King, Thomas.....	30	.07
King, Simeon.....	40	.10
Hender, Stephen.....	12	.02
Ransom, Asa.....	410	.61
Erwin, John.....	428	.96
Woolman, John.....	162	.36
Philips, William.....	30	.07
Carver, John.....	316	.40
Eli, Justin.....	5,000	9.91
Barnard, Ebenezer.....	1,950	3.87
Phelps, Enoch.....	4,437	8.80
Hartford, Charles.....	2,323	4.62
King, Gideon (heirs).....	4,500	8.92
Hinkley, Samuel.....
Stone, John.....	5,000	9.91
Walsworth, James.....	34,500	68.38
Williamson, C. and others.....	34,500	68.28
Gilbert, Warren.....	2,190	2.60
Colt, Judah.....	1,320	2.61
Morris, Thomas.....	4,200	8.32
Hall, Amos.....	700	1.38
Holland Company.....	3,300,000	5,231.52

	Value of Real and Personal Estate.	Amount of Tax.
Williamson, Charles	155,150	307.41
Williamson & Phelps	100,000	219.14
Craigie, Andrew	50,000	73.96
Ogden, Samuel	50,000	109.57
Cottinger, Garrit	50,000	109.57
Church, Philip	100,000	219.14
Unknown	27,210	59.41
Le Roy & Bayard	82,000	179.68
Le Roy & Bayard	40,000	87.66
Phelps & Jones, supposed to be owned by Thomas Morris	10,960	89.36
Joseph Pitts Simmons
Joseph Higby	600,000	1,314.81
Total	\$4,785,368	\$8,287.11

JOSEPH ELLICOTT.

No man was more closely identified with the history of Western New York, and especially of the Holland Purchase than Joseph Ellicott. As the general land agent of the Holland Company, superintendent of their surveys and settlements, his name has become associated with the early history of nearly every town and village. A conflict of authority exists as to the origin of the ancestors of Joseph Ellicott. In sketches of the family prepared for publication by descendants of the family at Ellicott Mills, Md., it is asserted that his grandparents, Andrew Ellicott and Ann Bye Ellicott, came to this country in 1731 from Cullopton, Wales, and settled in New York. Other reminiscences of the family state that they came from Cullompton, Devonshire, England, and settled in Bucks county, Pa., where they were married in 1731, soon after their arrival. Nathaniel, Joseph, Andrew and John Ellicott were the sons of Andrew, and as early as 1770 we find them settled in business as owners of a tract of land and mills on the Patapasco river in Maryland. This settlement has long been known as Ellicott's Mills. Of the sons of Andrew named in the foregoing, Joseph was the father of the Joseph Ellicott of Holland Purchase fame. Another son, Andrew, eldest brother of Joseph, became eminent as a surveyor. He surveyed the Spanish boundary, so called, during Jefferson's administration, and afterwards was made surveyor general of the United States. At the time of his death, about 1821, he was professor of mathematics in the United States Military Academy at West Point.

At the age of fourteen Joseph Ellicott became, with his father's fam-

ily, a resident of Maryland. Previous to this time he had enjoyed only such advantages as were afforded by the pioneer schools and the instructions of his brother Andrew in surveying. When the site of the city of Washington was selected as the national capital he assisted his brother in its survey. In 1761 Timothy Pickering, secretary of war, designated him to run the boundary line between the State of Georgia and the territory of the Creek Indians. His next engagement was to survey the lands of the Holland Company in Pennsylvania, under Theophilus Cazenove, their general agent. This brought him into the notice of the company and resulted in his appointment in their service soon after, where he continued for upwards of twenty years.

Mr. Ellicott's commission as principal surveyor of the Holland Company's lands in Western New York dated from July, 1797, but his actual service did not commence until after the council of the September following, when the company's titles to these lands were perfected. His first duty was to make a traverse and survey of the north and northwest bounds of the tract for the purpose of estimating the quantity of land it contained. On this expedition he was accompanied by Augustus Porter, as surveyor for Robert Morris. Commencing at the northeast corner of Phelps and Gorham's tract, west of the Genesee river, they traversed the south shore of Lake Ontario to the Niagara river, thence along the Niagara river and the southeast shore of Lake Erie to the western boundary of New York State, that being a meridian line running due south from the western extremity of Lake Ontario, as previously established by United States Surveyor-General Andrew Ellicott. This work was completed in November following and Mr. Ellicott returned to Philadelphia for the winter.

Early in the spring of 1798 he again arrived in the territory with a large force of assistants. The work of this season was to commence the division of the territory into townships in accordance with plans already made, and the establishment of the eastern boundary of the purchase. A number of men were detailed for town work, while Mr. Ellicott, with his brother Benjamin, and several assistants, undertook the difficult task of running a true meridian line from the Pennsylvania boundary to Lake Ontario. A stone monument was erected on the Pennsylvania line, exactly twelve miles west from the eighty-second milestone, as a starting point. Providing himself with a transit instrument, Mr. Ellicott commenced his labors. His progress was very slow and laborious. Trees and underbrush had to be cut away to

a width of three or four rods, that an uninterrupted view might be obtained in advance of the instrument. About the first of December following the work was completed. For nearly twelve years Mr. Ellicott was actually engaged in the work of surveying this large tract, and finally became local agent of the company.

In person, Joseph Ellicott was a man of commanding presence. He was six feet three inches tall, and possessed of a splendid constitution and great powers of endurance. In his business he was methodical, prompt and faithful. He was a most agreeable companion, being possessed of unusual conversational powers. Turner, in his *History of the Holland Purchase*, says of him: "His education was strictly a practical one." He was a good mathematician, a scientific surveyor, a careful and able financier. The voluminous correspondence he has left behind him, with the general agency at Philadelphia, with the prominent men of this State of his period—in reference to the business of the company, political measures, works of internal improvement, and public policy generally—indicate a good degree of talent as a writer, and enlarged and statesman-like views." During his life Mr. Ellicott accumulated a large estate. He never married, and at his death his estate, by special bequests, was divided among his surviving relatives. During the last years of his life his mind became greatly impaired and he was removed to Bellevue hospital, New York, for treatment. Here, escaping the vigilance of his attendants, he took his own life in August, 1826. His remains were afterward brought to Batavia, where they now rest, marked by a beautiful monument erected to his memory.

CHAPTER VIII.

From 1800 to 1812—Increase of Settlements on the Holland Purchase, Particularly in Genesee County—Early Taverns Between Batavia and Buffalo—The First Town Meeting—First Courts in Genesee County—Division of the Town of Batavia—Life of the Pioneers—The First Church in the County—Other Pioneer Religious Organizations—The First Murder Trial—The First Printing Press and Newspaper—The Arsenal at Batavia.

The beginning of the nineteenth century witnessed the development of order out of chaos throughout the greater portion of the Genesee country. March 30, 1802, the county of Genesee was erected from Ontario, and included all of the State west of the Genesee river. The survey of this immense tract had progressed to a point where the Holland Company was prepared to supply newcomers with good farms as rapidly as they should make application for them. Soon after the erection of the county Joseph Ellicott established his land office on the site of the present village of Batavia, of which he became the founder. This location he chose because it was central; and furthermore it was on the line of the Indian trail from Canada to Southern New York, and directly in the path of the immigration that was then moving westward. Within a few rods of his office the Indians had a council ground. His first office was a wooden structure, but early in the century it was replaced by the stone structure which stands to-day, one of the most historic and interesting edifices in Western New York. The Land Office was in all respects the headquarters of the entire Holland Purchase. It was practically the capital of a rapidly developing colony, and all enterprises of any import were discussed and settled there. Mr. Ellicott, a courtly, dignified, honest and extremely pleasant gentleman, maintained his important position in a manner that has caused his name to be remembered even to this day with feelings of profound respect and admiration.

The fame of the region was extending, and methodical settlement, under the auspices of the Holland Company, began. At first there was some difficulty in disposing of the company's lands on account of the demand for ten per cent. cash. The price set was \$2.75 per acre.

Many of those who desired to buy had little if any money; and most of those who were able to pay the advance demanded were reluctant to do so, as the clearing of the land would immediately require a large outlay of time and some money. Referring to this matter Mr. Ellicott wrote to Mr. Busti that "if some mode could be devised to grant land to actual settlers who cannot pay in advance, and at the same time not destroy that part of the plan which requires some advance," he was convinced that "the most salutary results would follow."

There is no doubt that Mr. Ellicott was greatly disappointed at the slow sales of land. While he had believed that the favorable terms offered, coupled with the great natural advantages of the region, would result in a very general migratory movement westward, he evidently had not taken the scarcity of money into consideration. On December 4, 1801, while at his temporary headquarters at "Pine Grove," he wrote to Mr. Busti as follows:

I have made no actual sales this fall where the stipulated advance has been paid. I begin to be strongly of the opinion you always expressed to me (but which I must confess I rather doubted), that few purchasers will come forward and pay cash for land in a new country.

But the prospects grew brighter with the beginning of another year, and Mr. Ellicott announced that many settlers were preparing to establish homes and begin the clearing and cultivation of their lands as soon as the spring opened. The opening of highways and the establishment of taverns added to the conveniences of the locality and doubtless helped to make it more attractive to newcomers.

"Among the primitive tavern keepers there was a backwoods philosopher. It was the Mr. Walther who had been sent from Philadelphia to be the landlord at the Transit Store House. Established in his location, he made himself quite officious; his letters came thick and fast upon Mr. Ellicott, whenever he knew where they would reach him. They were an odd mixture of philosophy and advice and suggestions in reference to the best manner of settling a new country. In one letter he would talk of his domestic troubles; in another he would announce that one, or two, or three landlookers had been his guests, not forgetting to assure Mr. Ellicott how hard he had labored to convince them of the splendid prospects of the new country; in another he would inform him of false reports that had been started as to the title of the land, and how he had put a quietus upon them; in another he would express his regrets that his house was full of strangers, who were pass-

ing the Purchase, and going to 'swell the numbers of his Britannic Majesty's subjects in Upper Canada.' In Mr. Ellicott's absence he was wont to consider himself a sub-agent; taking some airs upon himself, from some favors that had been shown him by the general agent at Philadelphia. He did not last long, as will be observed in an extract of a letter from Mr. Ellicott to Mr. Busti. Mr. Ellicott answers a letter received from 'Mrs. Berry and Miss Wemple'—(names familiar to old settlers, as household words). They were applicants for two town lots at the 'Bend of the Tonewanta.' He very courteously informs them that when he lays out a town there the lots will contain forty acres each, and their application will be held in remembrance."¹

The first town meeting on Holland Purchase was held at the log tavern of Peter Vandeventer on March 1, 1803. The functions of this meeting extended over territory having a radius of a hundred miles, though the most distant settlements were at Buffalo, twenty-two miles west, and at the East Transit, twenty-four miles east. But, despite the long distance many of them were compelled to travel, and in the season of the year when new roads were very apt to be almost impassable, the number of the assembled voters was so large that the polls were opened out of doors by Enos Kellogg, one of the commissioners appointed for the purpose of organizing the town of Batavia.

The meeting was a unique one. Mr. Kellogg, after calling the voters to order, announced that Peter Vandeventer and Jotham Bemis of Batavia village were candidates for supervisor. The vote was then taken, the procedure being novel. Mr. Kellogg placed the two candidates side by side in the road and then directed the voters to fall in line, each beside the man of his choice. Seventy-four men stood by Vandeventer and seventy by Bemis, and the former was declared elected. A little later on, when the men from the east of Vandeventer's (who were considered Batavians) gathered in the one place, and those from the west of there in another, they took note of their absent neighbors and found that there were but four to the eastward and five to the westward who had failed to attend. This makes the whole number of voters on the Holland Purchase in that year one hundred and fifty-three, one hundred and forty-four of whom were present at this primitive election.

The balance of the officers chosen on that occasion were as follows, the election being conducted by uplifted hands:

¹ Turner's History.

Town clerk, David Cully; assessors, Enos Kellogg, Asa Ransom, Alexander Rhea; commissioners of highways, Alexander Rhea, Isaac Sutherland and Sufrenus (?) Maybee; overseers of the poor, David Cully and Benjamin Porter; collector, Abel Rowe; constables, John Mudge, Levi Felton, Rufus Hart, Abel Rowe, Seymour Kellogg and Hugh Howell; overseers of highways, Martin Middaugh, Timothy S. Hopkins, Orlando Hopkins, Benjamin Morgan, Rufus Hart, Lovell Churchill, Jabez Warren, William Blackman, Samuel Clark, Gideon Dunham, Jonathan Willard, Thomas Layton, Hugh Howell, Benjamin Porter and William Walsworth.

The first State election on the Holland Purchase was held at the same place the following month. At the latter meeting one hundred and eighty-nine votes were cast for member of assembly, evidence of the rapid increase in the number of settlers. At this election the vote was as follows:

For Senators—Caleb Hyde, 146; Vincent Mathews, 5

For Members of Assembly—Daniel Chapin, 182; Ezra Patterson, 155. John Swift, 160; Polydore B. Wisner, 4; Nathaniel W. Howell, 28, Amos Hall, 9.

In June, 1803, the court house at Batavia being nearly completed, the first courts of the county were organized there. The judges were Ezra Platt, John H. Jones and Benjamin Ellicott, and Nathan Perry was an assistant justice. Among those admitted to practice in the new court as attorneys and counselors were Timothy Burt, Gouverneur Ogden, John Greig, Richard Smith and George Hosmer. At this term of court the first grand jury west of the Genesee river was organized. It consisted of Alexander Rhea, Asa Ransom, Peter Vandeventer, Daniel Henry, Samuel F. Geer, Lovell Churchill, Jabez Warren, Zerah Phelps, Jotham Bemis, Seymour Kellogg, John A. Thompson, John Ganson, jr., Isaac Smith, Elisha Farwell, Peter Shaeffer, Hugh McDermott, John McNaughton and Luther Cole. In November following, at a second session of the courts, Ebenezer F. Norton, Robert W. Stoddard, Jonathan T. Haight, John Collins, Daniel B. Brown and Jeremiah R. Munson were admitted to practice. The first issue joined in a court of record west of the Genesee river was tried at this term. It was the case of Rufus Hart versus Erasmus Enos.

At the next term of courts in June, 1804, several indictments were tried, and the jury was the first traverse jury drawn and organized in the new court. It consisted of William Rumsey, Joseph Selleck, Abel Rowe, John Forsyth, Benjamin Morgan, Alexander McDonald, Peter Campbell, James Woods, Benjamin Gardner, Lovell Churchill, John Anderson and John McVean. The first jury empanelled in a civil suit in these courts consisted of Job Pierce, Andrew Wortman, Gilbert Hall, John

McNaughton, Isaac Smith, Archileas Whitten, Isaac Sutherland, Samuel Davis, Ransom Harmon, Peter Vanderverter, Hugh McDermott, and Jabez Fox.

The Big Tree road, or the Middle road, as it was known by the Holland Company, was surveyed and cut out in the summer of 1803 by Jabez Warren of Aurora, who was paid \$2.50 per mile for surveying and \$10 per mile for cutting out the road. This highway extended from near Geneseo to Lake Erie in a nearly westerly direction. It ran about a mile south of the southerly line of the Big Tree Reservation.

The Legislature of 1804 divided the town of Batavia into four towns. These were: Batavia, on the east; next, Willink, including the 4th, 5th and 6th ranges; next Erie, containing the 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th ranges, the State Reservation and adjacent waters; then the town of Chautauqua, consisting of the remainder of the purchase.

Dr. Dwight, who traveled through the town of Pembroke in October, 1804, while making a tour of the West, notes the circumstance of his passing through "oak plains" or "openings," as he refers to them. He describes these grounds as having a varied surface, and in a great degree destitute of forests, but covered with grass, weeds and shrubs of various kinds. He supposes these openings to have been caused by the Indians burning them over, to produce pasturage for deer. In the fourth volume of his "Travels" he writes:

When one of these plains is seen at a little distance, a traveler emerging from the forest naturally concludes, that it is the commencement of a settled country, and as he advances toward it, is instinctively led to cast his eye forward to find the village of which it is the outskirt. From this impression his mind will be unable to free itself; for the thought, though given up, will recur again and again, in spite of his absolute conviction that he is in the heart of an immense wilderness. At the same time a sense of stillness and solitude, a feeling of absolute retirement from the world, deeper and more affecting than any in which he has ever suspected before, will be forced upon him while he is roving over one of these sequestered regions. No passage out of them is presented to his eye. Yet though the tract around him is seemingly bounded everywhere, the boundary is everywhere obscure; being formed by trees thinly dispersed, and retired beyond each other, at such distances, as that while in many places they actually limit the view, they appear rather to border dim, indistinct openings into other tracts of country. Thus he always feels the limit to be uncertain; and until he is actually leaving one of these plains, will continually expect to find a part of the expansion still spreading beyond the reach of his eye. At every little distance, especially on the higher grounds, the view is widely, though indefinitely extended along the surface; and a little above where he looks through the stems of the trees, is bounded only by the horizon. On every side a multitude of chasms conduct his eye beyond the labyrinth by which he is surrounded; and pre-

sent an imaginary passage back into the world, from which he is withdrawn; bewildering him with expectation, continually awakened to be continually disappointed. Thus in a kind of wild, romantic rapture, he wanders over these plains, with emotions similar to those with which, when a child, he roamed through the wilderness created in Arabian tales, or the imaginary regions spread before him in a dream. He is not only separated from all human beings, but is every moment conscious of this separation. Whenever he ascends one of the superior elevations, he seems to stand above the rest of the globe. On every side he looks downward; and beholds a prospect with many vistas, opening indeed around him, but conducting his eye to no definite object, and losing it in confusion and obscurity. His view is confined by neither forests nor mountains; while yet trees in a thin dispersion partly interrupt it; but at the same time discover, through their various openings, that it has no other limitation than the skirts of the heavens. While he wanders on through this bewildering scenery, he cannot fail to remember, that on these plains Indians have lived, and roved, and hunted, and fought, ever since their first arrival from the shores of Asia. Here, unless they molested each other, there was nothing to molest them. They were the sole lords, the undisturbed possessors of the country. Here, therefore, he will call up before his imagination the secret windings of the scout; the burst of the war-whoop; the fury of an Indian onset; the triumphant display of scalps; and the horrors of the war dance before the tortured and expiring captive. Whether these thoughts will be excited in the mind of any future traveler, I know not; in my own they sprang up instinctively.

An idea of the manner in which some of the pioneers lived, and of the business of those early days, may be gleaned from the following narrative of William H. Bush, a pioneer who came from Bloomfield, Ontario county, and located upon the Tonawanda three and a half miles below Batavia:¹

I moved my family from Bloomfield in May, 1806. The settlers on Buffalo road, between my location and Batavia village, were Isaac Sutherland, Levi Davis and Timothy Washburn. Rufus McCracken, Daniel McCracken, Thomas Godfrey, Linus Gunn, Henry Starks, Alanson Gunn, David Bowen, John Lambertson, lived on the road west. There were then less than one hundred acres of land cleared on the Buffalo road in the distance of six miles west of Batavia.

I built a log house, covered it with elm bark—could not spare time to build a chimney; the floor was of slabs and hemlock boards. I immediately commenced building a saw mill and had it completed before the middle of October. That summer my wife did the cooking for family and hired men by an out of door fire, built up against stumps. The first winter, I attended my own saw mill, working in it from daylight to dark, cutting my firewood and foddering my stock by the light of a lantern. Before winter set in, I had built a stick chimney, laid a better floor in my house, plastered the cracks, and hired an acre of land cleared—just enough to prevent the trees falling upon my house. When the mill was built I had it paid for, but to accomplish it, I had sold some pork and grain I had produced by working land upon shares in Bloomfield—in fact, everything but my scanty household furniture. My saw mill

¹ Turner's History, page 61.

proved a good investment, boards were much in demand at seven dollars and fifty cents per thousand; the new settlers stocked the mill with logs to be sawed on shares.

In 1808 I built a machine shop, a carding and cloth dressing establishment. These were the first upon the Holland purchase. On the 10th of June of that year, I carded a sack of wool, the first ever carded by machine on the Holland Purchase. It belonged to George Lathrop of Bethany. In February, 1809, I dressed a piece of full cloth for Theophilus Crocker, the first ever dressed upon the Holland Purchase. There are on my books, the names of customers, from as far south as Warsaw and Sheldon; from the east, as far as Stafford; from the west to the Niagara river and Lake Erie, including Chautauque county; from pretty much all of the settled portion of the Holland Purchase. I carded in the season of 1808, 3,029 lbs. of wool; the largest quantity for any one man, was 70 lbs., the smallest, 4 lbs. The lots averaged 18 lbs. Allowing 3 lbs. to a sheep, the average number of sheep then kept by the new settlers, would be six; although it is presumed that the number is larger, as in those days, much of the wool was carded by hand.

The machinists of the present day, may be glad to learn how I procured my machinery. I bought my hand shears of the Shakers at New Lebanon; my press plate at a furnace in Onondaga; my serew and box at Canaan, Conn., my dye kettle, press papers, &c. at Albany. My transportation bill, for these things, was over two hundred dollars.

I built a grist mill in 1809; in 1817, a paper mill and distillery. I manufactured the first ream of paper west of the Genesee river.

During all the period of my milling operations I was clearing up the farm where I now reside, coming into the woods as I have related, dependent almost wholly upon the labors of my hands, in the first twenty years, success had so far attended my efforts, that I had accumulated some fifteen or sixteen thousand dollars.

An exhaustive search among the records of the oldest churches in Genesee county adduces evidence of the most reliable character that the first religious society to be established in this county is the First Congregational church of Bergen, which was organized in December, 1807, by the Rev. John Lindsley and thirteen other inhabitants of that town who became the first communicants.¹ This church, in all probability, was not only the first to be founded in Genesee county, but it is the oldest religious organization west of the Genesee river, with the single exception of the old Scotch Presbyterian church at Caledonia, Livingston county. At the time of its organization Bergen was a part of the great town of Northampton. At the time of the organization Levi Ward, sr., and Benjamin Wright were elected deacons, and Levi Ward, jr., clerk. January 25, 1808, organization was perfected by the

¹Some authorities claim that the Presbyterian church in Alexander was organized a short time prior to this date, but this statement cannot be thoroughly authenticated. It is possible, however, that the Presbyterian church at Alexander and the First Congregational of Bergen, in the absence of positive documentary evidence, may have to divide the honor falling to the pioneer church of Genesee county.

election of Alexander White, Simon Pierson and Levi Ward, jr., as trustees. The other original members were John Ward, John Gifford, Josiah Pierson, Selah Wright and W. H. Munger. The Rev. John Lindsley preached for the new society for a few months, but the first regularly ordained pastor was the Rev. Allen Hollister, who was installed July 4, 1810. The first church edifice was built on Cemetery Hill, about a mile to the south of the second location, to which place the church was removed in the spring of 1854, during the pastorate of the Rev. A. O. Whiteman. Although organized as a Congregational church, the society placed itself in charge of the Presbytery soon after its organization, since which it has remained a Presbyterian church.

Meetings had been held by the Presbyterians of Alexander for over two years, under the direction of Elder Burton, before the Presbyterian church in that town was organized. The exact date of the establishment of this church is not known. It was in existence in 1808, and some authorities claim that it was founded about the same time as, or even shortly prior to, the organization of the Congregational society in Alexander. Harvey Hawkins and Cyrenus Wilbur were the principal promoters of the movement which resulted in its formation. It was not a strong society at the start, as is shown by the fact that upon its reorganization, or the perfection of its organization, in 1818, it had but ten members. The first house of worship, a stone structure, was not erected until 1828. The Rev. Solomon Hibbard was the first regular pastor. A second edifice was constructed in 1845, at an expense of five thousand dollars.

The first murder case in the court of Genesee county occurred at the term held in June, 1807, when James McLean, who had been indicted for the murder of William Orr, was placed on trial. Hon. Daniel D. Tompkins was the presiding judge, and Judge Howell was council for the prisoner. A right then existing by common law, but long since abolished by statute, was that the accused, being an alien, was entitled to be tried by a jury one-half of whom were aliens. In accordance with the demand of the counsel for the defense a jury thus composed was selected, as follows:

Citizens—Benjamin Morgan, Ebenezer Cary, Samuel Geer, Worthy L. Churchill, John Olney and Daniel Fairbanks.

Aliens—Duncan McLelland, James McLelland, John McPherson, John McVane, Daniel McKinney and Patrick Powers.

The jury convicted the prisoner, who was sentenced to be hanged in

August following. The crime was committed near Caledonia Springs. McLean, Orr and a man named McLaughlin, who were squatters on the forty thousand acre tract, had been to the Springs together, had drunk at least one glass of beer each, but McLean was not intoxicated. While there a dispute arose regarding a tree located on land which McLean claimed, and which had been felled by Orr. McLean knocked Orr down with an axe, killing him at the second blow. McLaughlin interfered to prevent a tragedy, and he too was killed. That night the murderer remained in a hollow log near his house, and the following morning took to the woods. As soon as the news of the crime reached the ears of the authorities Judge Platt ordered out the militia, which, in small squads, searched the entire region. Several days passed, when McLean was captured while attempting to make his escape eastward, he having been recognized at a tavern a few miles east of Canandaigua, where he was arrested. A great crowd from all parts of the country attended the public execution, the first to take place in Genesee county and consequently an event of extraordinary interest for those days.

Several other events of interest occurred in the county during the period prior to the war of 1812. The development of the numerous resources of the community progressed favorably during these years. In the villages of Batavia and Le Roy, as well as in the smaller settlements, the spirit of progress was constantly in evidence. New business buildings were erected annually to accommodate the increasing trade of the community, and many handsome residences also were erected. Road improvement during these years was carried on at a satisfactory rate, enabling the rapidly increasing farming community to carry on trade with the villages with greater facility.

In 1807 the first printing press ever seen west of the Genesee river was set up in Batavia, and soon after the opening of the office the first number of the Genesee Intelligencer, the pioneer newspaper of the county, and indeed of the entire Holland Purchase, was issued from that press, by Elias Williams, editor and publisher.

Until 1810 James Brisbane and Ebenezer Cary were the only merchants in the village of Batavia. In that year an extensive store was opened by Ephraim Hart, who intrusted its management to Clark Heacox.

The pioneer religious society of Batavia was organized September 19, 1809, by Rev. Royal Phelps, a missionary sent out by the Hampshire Missionary Society of Massachusetts. It was of the Congrega-

tional denomination. This church was not regularly incorporated until February, 1811. Its first regular pastor was Rev. Ephraim Chapin, who served in this capacity from 1818 to 1821 inclusive.¹

The fourth religious society to be founded in Genesee county was the Freewill Baptist church at West Bethany, which was organized in 1809 by the Rev. Nathaniel Brown. Every town in Genesee county, excepting Bethany, received from the Holland Land Company a grant of one hundred acres of land for religious purposes. But this neglect on the part of the Land Company did not dampen the spiritual ardor of the adherents of the Baptist denomination in Bethany, as is demonstrated by the very early establishment of their church society. This church experienced a steady, though not rapid, growth from the start. Lack of means, however, deterred the society from erecting a house of worship for three decades, the first edifice, a frame building, not being erected until 1839.

The first church in the town of Byron was of the Baptist denomination. This society was organized at Byron Centre in 1810, but after a few years it disbanded. Religious services had been conducted in that town, however, a year before the establishment of this pioneer society, by the Rev. Royal Phelps, a Presbyterian missionary from Cayuga county. In the same year (1810) the Rev. Joshua Spencer, a Congregational minister, held services in Pembroke and organized a Congregational church at Long's Corners, now Corfu. This was the first religious society in the town of Pembroke. Its existence covered but a brief period.

The East Elba Methodist Episcopal church began its existence by the formation of a class of eleven under the leadership of Joseph Walton, an exhorter of that denomination. Among those who thus associated themselves together for worship were Elder Grant, John Howe, Seth Howe, Zalmon Luttington, Fayette Luttington and others. The class was organized by the Rev. Ralph Lanning. A year later the Rev. Marmaduke Pierce became the first regular pastor of the society, and in 1814, so greatly had the organization prospered, that the erection of a small house of worship was found practicable. In 1830 a new church was dedicated, and Levi Barnes, John Taylor, Phineas Howe, William Knapp, Isaac Barber and Locklin Norton were chosen to be its trustees.

In 1811 a public library, the first in the county, was established in

¹ This church afterward became the First Presbyterian church of Batavia.

Alexander. The trustees were Alexander Rea, Harvey Hawkins, Seba Brainard, Samuel Latham, Henry Hawkins, Noah North and Ezra W. Osborn.

It was not until February 7, 1812, that the first Presbyterian church of Le Roy was organized, although religious services had been held in that town with some degree of regularity ever since 1800, when they were inaugurated by the Rev. David Perry, a missionary from Massachusetts. The Le Roy church of 1812 at once was increased in numbers by the admission into membership of the local adherents of the Congregational denomination. The organization of the society was perfected by the Rev. Oliver Ayer and the Rev. Reuben Parmelee. David Anderson was the first to be ordained to the deaconate. The Rev. David Fuller, the first resident clergyman, served the society for a short time, when the Rev. Calvin Colton was installed as the first regular pastor. A substantial house of worship was erected by the society in 1826.

The old arsenal at Batavia, which was abandoned about 1816, was erected just prior to the war of 1812. This was one of the numerous measures for defense adopted by the State Government for the protection of the frontier as soon as it was seen that hostilities were inevitable. About 1810 the State entered into a contract with Joseph Ellicott for the construction of a building twenty feet square and twelve feet in height, to be used for the storage of military supplies. The arsenal remembered by the present generation was not built until after the close of that war.

In 1811 a Protestant Episcopal church was established in Sheldon (Bennington), then in Genesee county, this being the first church of that denomination organized upon the Holland Purchase. The first wardens were Joshua Mitchell and Fitch Chipman, and the first vestrymen were John Rolph, John W. Coleman, Seneca Reed, James Case, Philo Welton and James Ward. The Union Religious Society was established in 1812 at Warsaw, then also in Genesee county. The first trustees were Isaac Phelps, Abraham Reed, John Munger, William Bristol, Zerah Tanner and Shubael Goodspeed. The first Baptist church of Sheldon was organized in 1812 with the following trustees: Pelatiah Case, Darius Cross, Justin Loomis, Solomon King, William W. Parsons and Ezra Ludden.

CHAPTER IX.

PIONEERS OF GENESEE COUNTY.

The settlement of the territory west of the Genesee river was retarded greatly by reason of the continued Indian troubles. Immediately after the close of the war a number of New England farmers, principally from the western part of Connecticut, started out with their families to build new homes in the already famous "Genesee country;" but soon after entering the State of New York they learned of the dangers that beset the whites in that locality, and abandoned the project. Some returned to the locality whence they had come, and others located in the Mohawk valley or in Saratoga county. As early as 1783 two families, named Reynolds and Rogers, left Canaan, Connecticut, with the intention of settling west of the Genesee river, but their journey ended in Saratoga county.

While the tide of immigration in the direction of the rich and productive plains of the famed Genesee country was not very strong until the close of the eighteenth century, still a number of daring seekers after new homes found their way into this region prior to 1800. In a preceding chapter appear the names of most of the taxpayers west of the Genesee river in 1800. Just when they came and where they located has never been ascertained in some cases. The pioneers of those days, while building for posterity, did not keep a record of their movements and other important events, consequently later generations have been compelled to live on with but meagre knowledge of the careers of their ancestors, excepting rare cases.

It is probable that the first white man to locate in the territory now comprised within the confines of the county of Genesee, and perhaps the first to locate permanently at any point on the Holland Purchase, was Charles Wilbur, who, in 1793, began the cultivation of a farm which subsequently became a part of the site of the village of Le Roy. Wilbur erected a small log house, which he used as a residence and a tavern. There has been some difference of opinion on this point, but modern research, reinforcing the records of the past, leads to the con-

clusion that Wilbur was the first white man to found a home in that part of New York State west of the Genesee river.

While Wilbur was the pioneer settler, his residence at this point covered a comparatively brief period, and he did little to perpetuate his name or fame. It is to the Ganson family that the credit for pioneer progress and industry properly belongs.

Captain Ganson was born in Bennington, Vt., in 1750. At the beginning of the Revolutionary war he enlisted as a private in the patriot army, went at once with a Vermont regiment to Boston, arriving there in time to participate in the battle of Bunker Hill. During that engagement a British musket ball carried away one of his fingers. Soon after he was commissioned as captain, and kept command of a company until the close of the war, when he returned to his home at Bennington.

During a part of the war Captain Ganson was a member of the command of General Sullivan, and as such participated in the latter's expedition against the Seneca Indians. During his brief sojourn in the borders of the famed "Genesee country" he was impressed by the remarkable fertility of the land and the agreeable climate. It was to him an ideal spot for a home and for carrying on agricultural pursuits. Compared with the rugged hills of Vermont, it was little short of a paradise for a farmer.

With the close of the war Captain Ganson decided to make a still further personal investigation of the wonderful new country, and the fear of the dreaded Seneca Indians did not deter him from starting out on his trip of inspection. In 1789 he left Bennington, accompanied by his two sons. Of these, John was fourteen years of age and James was twelve. Late in the fall of that year they reached a point about two miles south of the site of the village of Avon, where he purchased land on which to build his future home.

Leaving his sons in the custody of a friendly Seneca he returned to Vermont for the purpose of bringing the remainder of his family west with him. But soon after reaching home his wife died, and it was not until late in the spring of 1790 when he began his final journey westward with the remnant of his family. At this time there were few settlements west of Utica, and most of the latter part of the journey had to be made over Indian trails. From Canandaigua to the Genesee river, a distance of over twenty miles, hardly a white habitation was to be seen. Soon after settling upon the Genesee the Gansons erected

the first grist mill located upon that river. It was a log structure and a primitive affair, but it proved a great convenience to the pioneers for miles around.

In 1797 Captain Ganson and his sons decided to remove to the west side of the river, and the former purchased the farm and house owned by Charles Wilbur. This place was the beginning of what subsequently became generally known as "the Ganson settlement," the neighborhood which ultimately developed into the thriving village of Le Roy. Here, a few years later, following the completion of the Holland Land Company's surveys, came immigrants in large numbers, and for many years the tavern of John Ganson, who as a lad of fourteen came west with his father, was one of the most noted between the Hudson river and the Great Lakes.

Both Stafford and Le Roy have long laid claim to the honor of being the location of the first permanent settlers in Genesee county. Though Captain Ganson purchased the Wilbur farm in 1797, it is generally believed that he did not remove there until the following spring. On this point there is some doubt. In 1798 James Brisbane, the first merchant on the Holland Purchase, came to Stafford with a load of supplies and general merchandise for sale to the surveyors at work under direction of Joseph Ellicott. He at once opened a store, on the site of the present village of Stafford, which was called the Transit storehouse; but its exact location is not now known. Though the truth is not definitely known, there are many reasons for believing that Captain Ganson had moved upon his newly acquired property in Le Roy a short time before Brisbane built his store, where he also at first resided. It is not likely that the mooted question will ever be definitely decided.

Settlements were also made at Batavia in 1798. These are more fully described in the chapter devoted to the history of the village of Batavia.

To revert to "the Ganson settlement:" Immigration hither assumed large proportions immediately after the completion of the surveys made by the Holland Land Company. Capt. Jotham Curtis, one of the earliest to come, was a farmer and tavern keeper. Joseph Hewitt and Daniel Davis came soon after. All three were there, however, before 1802, the year when the surveys were completed. Chapman Hawley located east of Le Roy village about 1801, and was well known as "the fiddler" for that section. For some time he was an important func-

tionary at local dances and other entertainments. Richard M. Stoddard, who came to this neighborhood in 1802, was the first local agent for the Triangle tract. Ezra Platt, who removed here from Canandaigua, either in 1801 or 1802, probably the latter date, was the first to receive the appointment of judge of Genesee County Court of Common Pleas. Stephen A. Wolcott, who came from Geneva in 1802, was the first cabinet-maker and builder in town.

Daniel Davis, whose settlement here has already been noted, married Naomi Le Barron soon after his arrival. She came from Killingworth, Conn., with the family of Philemon Nettleton. Their marriage was the first in the Ganson settlement and their daughter, Naomi Davis, was the first white child born there. Charles Wilbur, the first justice of the peace, performed the wedding ceremony. At the same time and place Gardner Carver and Lydia Davis were married by Justice Wilbur. Davis's farm was about two miles east of that of the Gansons, near the eastern edge of the present town.

Hinds Chamberlain was one of the very earliest pioneers, and one of the most enterprising and useful citizens in the community. In all public movements he was conspicuous as a leader for many years. He opened the first road from the Genesee river to Ganson's, over the old Indian trail, under direction of Richard M. Stoddard. The farm he first opened he sold in 1801 to Asher Bates, who in that year came from Canandaigua.

Richard M. Stoddard was one of the most conspicuous and influential men of the community in its early days. He came from Canandaigua with Ezra Platt. In May, 1801, Joseph Ellicott, then acting as special agent for Le Roy and Bayard, engaged Mr. Stoddard to make a survey of the Triangle tract, giving explicit directions as to the laying off of a tract of five hundred acres at "Buttermilk Falls." This tract, which was purchased in 1802 by Mr. Stoddard and Ezra Platt, is now entirely covered by the village of Le Roy. They erected on the Oatka a grist mill, which is believed to have been the first west of the Genesee river. Mr. Stoddard became the first sheriff of Genesee county and to his efforts is due in a very large measure the peaceful conditions which surrounded the inhabitants of this county during a portion of the first decade of the present century. He also built a commodious tavern and several other houses. He was a man of wide influence, which he invariably exercised for good.

In 1799 Gilbert Hall began the cultivation of the farm known in

recent years as the Phelps farm. Friend Hall came soon after and located near by. Jabez Fox and James Davis, jr., settled in town about 1800. Lyman Prindle built a home on West Main street in 1801. The following year Richard Waite came from Canandaigua. His home was frequently used in the early days as a house of worship. Daniel D. Waite, for many years editor of the *Batavia Advocate*, was his son. Captain James Austin was an early millwright in Le Roy, and Thaddeus Keyes had the first tannery there. Ebenezer Fox, one of the pioneers, conducted a singing school for some time. Aaron Scribner and Samuel Davis removed to this town about 1802. The latter was the proprietor of an early tavern. In a drunken brawl which occurred in his house he met his death at the hands of his son, James, and Elijah Gray, sr. Both were tried and convicted of the murder. Gray was sentenced to State prison for life, but sentence was subsequently commuted. James Davis was hanged for the crime, at Batavia, in 1829. Among others who settled in the town prior to 1802 were Captain Nathaniel Buel, John Sweatland and Orange Judd.

In 1805 Jeremiah Hascall came from Connecticut and settled upon the farm east of the village which in more recent years has been known as "Dreamland." He had four sons—Jeremiah, Amasa, John and Augustus P.—and two daughters.

In 1808 Simon Pierson located near Fort Hill. He was a descendant of Abraham Pierson, the first president of Yale University. He served as a major in the war of 1812, and enjoyed a reputation as an authority on Indian antiquities. He made numerous excavations in the ancient Indian fort near his home and discovered large numbers of Indian relics. Some of these he found below the largest trees, proving that the works were very ancient.

Contemporaries of Major Pierson were George W. Blodgett, the first saddler and harnessmaker, who settled upon the farm afterward occupied by his daughter, Mrs. J. R. Anderson; Mr. Brown, who was the pioneer blacksmith; John Gilbert, a blacksmith and axe maker, father of the distinguished artist; Levi Farnham, the first manufacturer of clothing; Captain Isaac Marsh, who built an early saw mill, probably the first in town; John Hay, the first stone mason, who built the first Episcopal church; William Whiting, who came from Canandaigua in 1809; Colonel William Olmsted, who came from Williamstown, Mass., in 1806, father of John R. Olmsted of Le Roy.

Among others who located in the town of Le Roy prior to the begin-

ning of the war of 1812 were Heman J. Redfield, who became a distinguished citizen of Genesee county; Augustus H. Ely, Stephen Stillwell, Daniel Woodward, David Anderson, Alexander Anderson, Joseph Austin, Jonathan Wright, Benjamin Webb, Joel Butler, Thankful Buel, Joy Ward, Captain William Thomas, Edmund Beach, Jonas Bartlett, Christopher Cadman, Joseph Cook, Amasa Clapp, Lee Comstock, Thomas Studley, Thomas Severance, James Roberts, Elias Peck, Henry Goodenow, Ezekiel Hall, Israel Herrick, Daniel Pierson, Russell Pierson, Ebenezer Parmelee, David W. Parmelee, Zalmon Owen, William Holbrook, Moses McCollum, Alfred Morehouse, Jesse Beach, Philip Beach, Colonel Norton S. Davis, Dudley Saltonstall, whose daughter became the wife of Richard M. Stoddard; Phineas Bates, Cyrus Douglass, Dr. David Fairchild, Jabez Fox, Amos Hall, Nathan Harvey, Alexander McPherson, Abel Nettleton, — Seofield, Amzi Stoughton, Richard Waite, Stephen A. Wolcott, Dr. William Coe, Calvin Davis, John McPherson, Samuel B. Wolley, Daniel White, David White, Allen McPherson, Gideon Fordham, John Franklin, Jacob McCollum, Robert Nesbit, Captain David Scott, Asa Buell, Moses Lilly, Isaac Perry, George A. Tiffany, David Emmons, Jason Munn, Philo Pierson, Simon Pierson, the author; Abram Butterfield, Ithamar Coe, John Elliott, Dr. Frederick Fitch, Dr. Benjamin Hill, Captain Theodore Joy, H. Johnson, Silas Lawrence, Hugh Murphy, R. Sinclair, Stephen P. Wilcox, Major Nathan Wilcox, Harry Backus, Timothy Backus, Ebenezer Miles, Salmon Butler, Chester Barrows, Willis Buell, Ward Beckley, Jacob Coe, Silas Fordham, William Harris, Seth Harris, Martin Kelsey, Uriah Kelsey, James McPherson, jr., Captain Isaac Marsh, Graham Newell, Stephen Olmsted, Harvey Prindle, Elias Parmelee, Dr. Chauncey P. Smith, Dr. William Sheldon, Thaddæus Stanley, Alanson Stanley, J. Harlow Stanley, Thomas Tufts, Thomas Warner, Chester Waite, Captain John Webb, Washington Weld, Joseph Annin, Abraham Buckley, Nathan Bannister, Joseph Curtis, Levi Farnham, Julius Griswold, Samuel Gilbert, Ebenezer Lawrence, Piny Sandersen, Elisha Stanley, John Thwing, Stephen Taylor, Stephen Walkley.

The mill of Stoddard & Platt was the first erected in Le Roy, its operation beginning in 1803. This mill antedates that which the Holland Land Company erected at Batavia.

The year before a wooden bridge had been erected over the Oatka. These two institutions served to attract people to Le Roy from the surrounding country, and were in a measure responsible for its early

growth. The bridge was built by James Ganson, under direction of Charles Wilbur and Jotham Curtis, commissioners of highways. The town voted \$50 towards paying the expense of construction, and \$200 more was raised by popular subscription. The work was finished five days after it had been begun, as men from all the adjacent country participated in the work, donating their services.

The post office at Le Roy was established in 1801, Asher Bates being the first to officiate as postmaster. Richard M. Stoddard and James Ganson were his immediate successors.

Richard M. Stoddard was the first to offer any merchandise for sale in town, but he did no general business. The first regular store in town was opened in 1806 by George F. Tiffany on the east side of the Oatka. Philo Pierson was also an early merchant, opening a store at the corner of Main and North streets in Le Roy about 1810. David Emmons and Captain Theodore Joy were proprietors of a general store at this point during the period under discussion. Captain Joy was one of the best known merchants between Canandaigua and Buffalo. M. & B. Murphy and James Annin located very early here. The latter first had a store on the east side of the Oatka, but like several others, he removed to the west side of the creek as soon as it became evident that that locality was to be the business centre of the village.

Dr. William Coe was the first regular practitioner to locate in Le Roy, where he settled in 1803. Besides practicing his profession he taught several of the higher branches of learning in the evening. Many of the prominent persons of the generation succeeding him owe to Dr. Coe the education they obtained. Dr. Frederick Fitch, Dr. Ella Smith, Dr. Chauncey P. Smith and Dr. William Sheldon practiced in town during this period. Graham Newell was the pioneer lawyer in town.

The name of the town was changed to Caledonia in 1807. In 1811 it was called Bellona, from the goddess of war, nearly every able-bodied man in town having enlisted in the American army to fight against the British. The name was not changed to Le Roy until 1813.

In the year 1798, Joseph and Benjamin Ellicott and James Brisbane are recorded as inhabitants of the town of Batavia. The separate chapter in the history of the village of Batavia furnishes more detailed information regarding these noted pioneers and some of their contemporaries. The early records show that John Branan located in town in 1800. In the township outside the village the first settlers were Isaac Sutherland, who built a substantial log house on his farm about two

miles west of the land office in the village, and General Worthy L. Churchill and Colonel William Rumsey, who located in the eastern section of the town. Soon after Benjamin Morgan, John Lamberton and Samuel F. Geer settled in the town.

The life and services of Joseph Ellicott, the founder of Batavia, have been touched upon in extenso elsewhere in this work. Let us now take a retrospective view of some of the less distinguished, though prominent and influential pioneer inhabitants, than the first agent of the Holland Land Company. Perhaps James Brisbane deserves the first place in the list.

Mr. Brisbane was born in Philadelphia, of Irish parentage, October 12, 1776. At the age of twenty-two years he left the City of Brotherly Love with a large quantity of supplies and general merchandise for sale to the corps of men then engaged in surveying the Western New York wilderness under the direction of Joseph Ellicott. Mr. Brisbane and those who accompanied him first stopped at Stafford, where a building called the Transit storehouse was erected. This was in 1798. January 2, 1800, he accompanied Mr. Ellicott back to Philadelphia. Returning in the spring of 1802 he located permanently in the new village of Batavia, which was laid out in that year, offering for sale the first lot of general merchandise ever shipped to that point. July 21, 1802, Gideon Granger, postmaster-general, commissioned him as the first postmaster of Batavia. This was the second post-office west of the Genesee, that at Lewiston being the first. Isaac Sutherland and Samuel F. Geer had erected a building on the northeast corner of Main and Church streets, which was immediately rented for use as a store by Mr. Brisbane, and afterward purchased by him. In 1806 he resigned the postmastership and Ebenezer Cary was appointed in his place. At the same time he disposed of his stock of goods and rented his store to Trumbull Cary. He soon after went to New York and engaged in the book business for two years. Returning to Batavia in 1808 he resumed business at his original stand, remaining there until 1821. During the earlier years of his residence in Batavia he purchased large parcels of real estate, which soon became exceedingly valuable. In 1833 he became the principal incorporator and largest shareholder of the Tonawanda railroad. Mr. Brisbane was married in 1807 to Mary Lucy Stevens, a sister of James W. Stevens, the first clerk of Genesee county. His death occurred May 29, 1851. He was survived by two sons: Albert, born in 1809, and George, born in 1812.

Among the other pioneers of the town, prior to the war of 1812, were the following:

James W. Stevens, a native of New Jersey and a graduate of Princeton College, came in 1800. At the earliest period of its land sales in Western New York he became connected with the Holland Land Company, and remained in that capacity until the affairs of that concern were closed up. He was the first clerk of Genesee county, holding office from 1804 to 1810. No man in all Genesee county was more highly esteemed than he.

David E. Evans, a nephew of Joseph Ellicott, came from his home in Maryland to assume a clerical position in the Holland Land office. He was elected to the State Senate in 1818 and served in that body four years. He became a member of congress in 1826, but resigned in that year in order to accept the agency of the Holland Company, to succeed Jacob Otto, a position he filled with great fidelity until 1837, when the affairs of the company were closed up. His death occurred in 1850. Mr. Evans was a public-spirited man, and a liberal contributor to all worthy enterprises, public or private.

Ebenezer Cary accompanied Mr. Ellicott as a surveyor to the Holland Purchase, and served the company for some time in various capacities. He was an early merchant in Batavia, succeeding James Brisbane.

Dr. David McCracken and Roswell Graham came in 1801, and James Cochrane in 1802. The latter was the proprietor of a bell foundry on Bank street. He died in 1826.

Trumbull Cary, brother of Ebenezer Cary, was born in Mansfield, Conn., August 11, 1787. He came to Batavia in 1805, and after spending four years as clerk for James Brisbane and Ebenezer Cary, bought out that firm and remained in business until 1840. He also served as postmaster for part of that time. He served in both branches of the State Legislature, and was an adjutant in the war of 1812. He was the founder of the Bank of Genesee, and was for many years one of the most successful business men and financiers in this section of the State. He died June 20, 1869.

Ebenezer Mix was born at New Haven, Conn., December 31, 1789. In 1809 he came to Batavia and worked at his trade as a mason in the summer and taught school in the winter. In 1810 he began the study of the law with Daniel B. Brown, but in the spring of 1811 entered the employ of the Holland Land Company, where he remained as

contracting clerk for twenty-seven years. During this period he was for twenty-one years surrogate of Genesee county. While serving in that office, he codified the State laws relating to the descent and distribution of estates. He served with distinction in the war of 1812, acting as the volunteer aide of Gen. Peter B. Porter at the memorable sortie at Fort Erie, September 17, 1814. He was recognized as one of the best mathematicians in the State, and was the author of a work entitled "Practical Mathematics." He also assisted Orsamus Turner in the compilation of his "History of the Holland Purchase." March 30, 1815, Mr. Mix married Jemima Debow. His death occurred in Cleveland, O., January 12, 1869.

Aaron Van Cleve, who came to Batavia in 1809, was born in New Jersey in 1768. In 1791 he married a daughter of Benjamin Stevens and a sister of James W. Stevens. In 1799 he assisted Joseph Ellicott in running the West Transit Line. In 1809 he removed to Batavia, and two years later was appointed sheriff, serving until 1814. He also held other offices of trust.

In addition to those persons mentioned in the foregoing, the following are recorded as holders of property in Batavia village or township as early as 1802:

Elisha Adams, Joseph Alvord, Dr. J. Arnold, Thomas Ashley, William Blackman, Hiram Blackman, Russell Crane, Charles Cooley, Silas Chapin, Daniel Curtis, James Clements, Jeremiah Cutler, James Cochran, Gideon Dunham, Garrett Davis, Dr. C. Chapin, John Forsyth, E. Gettings, Samuel F. Geer, Rufus Hart, James Holden, Paul Hinkley, Paul Hill, Jesse Hurlburt, Joseph Hawks, John Lamberton, P. Lewis, Daniel McCracken, Rufus McCracken, James McKain, Benjamin F. Morgan, David Mather, Elisha Mann, R. Noble, Zerah Phelps, Peter Powers, Benjamin Porter, Stephen Russell, Benjamin Russell, H. Rhodes, Abel Rowe, Amos Ranger, Rowland Town, E. Tillottson, Henry Wilder, Aaron White, J. Washburn, William Wood, Elijah Spencer and Isaac Spencer.

Beside these the following are on record as having been owners of property between the year 1802, when Batavia village was founded, and the outbreak of the war of 1812:

John Alger, David Anderson, David Bowen, William H. Bush, Benjamin Blodgett, Ephraim Brown, Isaiah Babcock, Daniel B. Brown, M. Brooks, William Curtis, Benjamin Cary, Elisha Cox, Nathaniel Coleman, Eleazer Cantling, L. L. Clark, Simeon Cummings, Peleg Doug-

lass. Levi Davis, Silas Dibble, jr., Hugh Duffy, John Dorman, L. Disbrow, John De Wolf, Andrew A. Ellicott, Gideon Ellicott, John B. Ellicott, William Ewing, Seymour Ensign, Phineas Ford, Libbeus Fish, Eden Foster, Ezekiel Fox, Othniel Field, David Goss, R. Godfrey, Thomas Godfrey, Linus Gunn, Alanson Gunn, Hugh Henry, James Henry, John Herring, Hinman Holden, Samuel C. Holden, General Amos Hall, David Hall, Winter Hewitt, James G. Hoyt, H. Jerome, Samuel Jacks, Seymour Kellogg, Zenas Keyes, Chauncey Keyes, William Keyes, Solomon Kingsley, John S. Leonard, Henry Lake, William Lucas, Amos Lamberton, Reuben Lamberton, Thomas Layton, A. Lincoln. — Leonard, Asa McCracken, E. Messenger, Azor Marsh, David C. Miller, N. Miner, William Pierce, Blanchard Powers, Patrick Powers, James Post, Nathan Rumsey, Samuel Ranger, J. Z. Ross, Reuben Town, I. Norman Town, Benjamin Tainter, Joel Tyrrell, Jonathan Wood, Reuben W. Wilder, Oswald Williams, Elias Williams, Abel Wheeler, John B. Watkins, Abraham Starks, Joshua Sutherland, David Smith, Isaac Smith, Henry Starks, J. P. Smith, S. Stoughton, N. Walker.

James Brisbane, the first settler in the town of Stafford and the first merchant on the Holland Purchase, remained in that town but a short time. In 1802, when Mr. Ellicott began the work of laying out the village of Batavia, one of the first men to take advantage of the superior opportunities for trade which that locality offered was Mr. Brisbane. He had abandoned his storehouse, which probably was located on the west side of the creek, north of the bridge, in the present village of Stafford, some time before.

In 1799, the year after the arrival of Mr. Brisbane, James Dewey, one of the surveyors employed by Mr. Ellicott for the Holland company, was induced by Mr. Brisbane to clear about ten acres of land just west of the Transit, which he sowed with oats.

Frederick Walther located in Stafford during or prior to 1800. He was one of the first men to accept the offer of the company in 1800, regarding the establishment of taverns. Paul Busti, the general agent of the company at Philadelphia, had given authority "to contract with six reputable individuals to locate themselves on the road from the Transit Line to Buffalo Creek, about ten miles apart, and open houses of entertainment for travelers," in consideration for which they were to have "from fifty to one hundred and fifty acres of land each, at a liberal time for payment, without interest, at the lowest price per acre."

In accordance with this offer Walther took a tract of one hundred and fifty acres west of and adjoining the Eastern Transit Line, including the company's storehouse. He had already located on a part of this tract, but how long he had been there at this time is unknown. His stay was brief in this community on account of his unpopularity.

One of the earliest permanent settlers of whom any record has been left was Colonel William Rumsey, who came from Hubbardton, Vt., in 1802 and located on Stafford Hill. Colonel Rumsey also was a surveyor employed under direction of Mr. Elliott, and a man of sterling worth. He became one of the most influential men in the town and county. His son, Joseph E. Rumsey, settled here the same year, but subsequently removed to Chicago.

In 1803 Nathan Marvin bought a large tract of land, upon which he settled, but he eventually sold the property and moved to Ohio.

General Worthy Lovell Churchill, who became one of the most conspicuous men in Genesee county in its early days, settled upon a farm near that of Colonel Rumsey in 1803. He served as an officer in the war of 1812, commanded the One Hundred and Sixty-fourth Regiment of New York State Militia, and served as sheriff of the county from 1820 to 1825.

John Debow and Zenas Bigelow began the cultivation of farms in Stafford in 1804. From that time to 1812 newcomers were quite numerous. Among those who came to town during that period were Eben Eggleston, who kept a tavern on the Big Tree road; D. Hall, Leonard King, Henry Rumsey, Josiah Churchill, Phineas White, John Bean, Malachai Tyler, Amos Stow, Seymour Ensign, — Falconer, Nathan Bannister and Betsey Bigelow. Tyler operated a small wood turning shop, where he turned out chairs, spinning wheels, bowls and other wooden implements. He also did blacksmithing. Amos Stow built a saw mill on Bigelow creek in 1811, and in the same year Seymour Ensign built a grist mill in the same neighborhood. The latter also conducted quite a business in wool-carding and cloth dressing. Captain Nathan Cash and Elisha Prentice removed to the town in 1812. Nathaniel Watson and Daniel Prentice located about 1812 on the Pultney lands of the Connecticut tract.

In 1806 Esther Sprout opened a private school on or near the present site of the village of Stafford. This undoubtedly was the first school in town. Nothing is known of any other schools which may have existed during this period.

Beside the Walther tavern referred to, Jonathan Bemis kept a public house in Stafford as early as 1804. David Danolds was another early landlord, his tavern being on the site of the one Walther had occupied, just west of the building occupied by Mr. Brisbane as a storehouse. Eben Eggleston's tavern on the Big Tree Road, opened in 1809, for many years was a famous hostelry.

Religious services were held in town as early as 1810, by the Rev. William Green, a Baptist preacher. The earliest meetings were held at the house of Colonel Rumsey. From these services sprang the first Baptist church of Stafford.

The town of Oakfield was first settled in 1801, when Erastus Wolcott and Aaron White built homes and began the cultivation of farms. Gideon Dunham located here soon after, in the same year, his neighborhood soon becoming known as Dunham's Grove. A little later in the same year Erastus Wolcott, Peter Rice and Christopher Kenyon moved into the town. Peter Lewis immigrated from Vermont in 1802 and settled on a farm near that of Gideon Dunham. Daniel Ayer and Job Babcock also came in 1802. The records show the following as having located here in 1803: Hiram Smith, James Robinson, Lemuel L. Clark, Silas Pratt, William McGrath, Philip Adkins, Darius Ayer and George Lathrop. Rufus Hastings, Rorabaek Robinson, Samuel Jerome, sr., Samuel Jerome, jr., Benjamin Chase and Solomon Baker came in 1804, and Caleb Blodgett, sr., Caleb Blodgett, jr., Micajah Green, George Hoge, Ezra Thomas, William Parrish, David Clark, Eldridge Buntley, George Harper, John Harper, David Woodworth, Nicholas Bentley and James Crosssett came in 1806. In 1807 Elijah Blodgett, a native of Vermont, came from Ontario county and settled at what is now Mechanicsville. William McCrillless settled here in 1810 and George W., John and Jeremiah H. Gardner in 1811. In the latter year George Driggs located on the north line of the Reservation. He cut that portion of the Lewiston road from Alabama to Walsworth's tavern. Other early settlers included John Orr, Russell Nobles, Othniel Brown, Harvey Hubbard and Laurens Armstrong.

The first mills in Oakfield were those built by Christopher Kenyon in 1811. Gideon Dunham was the first tavern keeper.

The earliest inhabitant of Bergen was Samuel Lincoln, who purchased a farm in that town in 1801. Soon afterward, in the same year, Benajah Worden, George Letson, William Letson, James Letson, David Scott, Gideon Elliott, Richard Abbey, Jesse Leach and Solomon Levi

settled in various portions of the town, mostly in Lincoln's neighborhood. From that time to 1812 the following were recorded as settlers in Bergen, all being landholders: Alexander White, Alexander Bissell, Amos Hewitt, A. E. Wilcox, John Landon, Abram Davis, Captain James Austin, James Landon, Isaac Wallace, Orange Throop, Joseph Throop, David Potter, Levi Bissell, Aaron Bissell, Wheaton Southworth, John Gifford, Samuel Butler, Jesse Barber, Jedediah Crosby, Captain William Peters, Samuel Gleason, Oliver Avery, Aaron Arnold, Eben Arnold, Deacon Benjamin Wright, Deacon Pitman Wilcox, Deacon John Ward, Deacon Levi Ward, Deacon Timothy Hill, James Munger, Joarab Field, Wickham Field, Joel Wright, Stephen R. Evarts, David H. Evarts, Captain Phineas Parmelee, Nathan Field, Uriah Crampton, Captain Samuel Bassett, Selah M. Wright, Bela Munger, William H. Munger, Harvey Field, Joshua Field, Dr. Levi Ward, Colonel W. H. Ward, Hamilton Wilcox, General Daniel Hurlburt, M. C. Ward, Josiah Pierson, Simeon Pierson, John Pierson, Philo Pierson, Linus Pierson, Russell Pierson (brothers), David Franklin, Ishi Franklin, Sylvanus Franklin, Reuben Franklin, Daniel Franklin (brothers), Harvey Kelsey, Captain Daniel Kelsey, Uriah Kelsey, Martin Kelsey, Charles Kelsey, Thomas Stevens, Daniel Stevens, Jesse Griswold, Josiah Buell, Job Seward, Roswell Parmelee, Ebenezer Parmelee, Abner Hull, Ebenezer Hull, Phineas Nettleton, John Smith, Samuel Smith, Deacon Selden, Major Nathan Wilcox, Calvin Seward, Augustus Buell and Jonathan Wright.

Hamilton Wilcox was a member of a colony which came from East Guilford, Conn., in 1808. At the age of sixteen years he began teaching school in Bergen. In the winter of 1813-14, when troops were called for, he left his school to take command of a company. On the night of December 30, 1813, as the British were crossing the river at Black Rock, he was wounded by a bullet. He was taken back to Bergen, where his arm was amputated, causing his death four weeks later.

Aaron Arnold was the oldest son of Enoch Arnold, and was born in Berkshire county, Mass., in 1781. In 1806 he married Eliza Allen of Canaan, Conn., and the following year he removed to Bergen and began farming. He became a man of wealth and influence, and served his town several terms as supervisor.

Ebenezer Arnold, youngest son of Daniel Arnold, came from East Haddam, Conn. in 1802. He was for many years a deacon in the First Congregational church of Bergen.

Wickham Field came from Killingworth, Conn., in June, 1809, in company with several other pioneers of Genesee, and settled about two miles west of Bergen village.

Abner Hull, who came also from Killingworth, Conn., in 1808, served as justice of the peace and supervisor of Bergen for many years. He was a man of upright character, noted far and wide for his integrity. One of his sons, Ferdinand H. Hull, was sheriff of Genesee county from 1860 to 1862 inclusive. Carlos A. Hull, who has served as county clerk continuously since 1867, is another son. Abner Hull's wife was Rachael Parmelee.

The first religious organization in Bergen of which there is any record was the Congregational church organized January 25, 1808, at the house of Deacon John Ward. But before this date religious services had been held by Rev. Calvin Ingalls, a missionary, in the barn of David Franklin.

Harvey Kelsey was the earliest school teacher. Titus Wilcox, Joshua Field and Hamilton Wilcox were other teachers of the pioneer days.

Jared Merrill erected the first saw mill in Bergen. The store of Dr. Levi Ward, opened in 1808, and that of Josiah Pierson, opened in 1811, are believed to have been the first in town. In 1809 Samuel Butler opened a tavern, the first public house in Bergen.

The earliest settlements in Bethany were made in the year 1803, when John Torrey, Orsamus Kellogg, John Dewey, Charles Culver, Captain George Lathrop, Richard Pearson, Samuel Prindle, L. D. Prindle, David Hall, O. Fletcher, Nathaniel Pinney, Horace Shepard and Jedediah Riggs took up farms in town. Whether all these actually settled here in that year or not is not shown by the records. Captain George Lathrop settled in town in that year, but he had two neighbors who were there before him. Captain Lathrop was an officer in the war of 1812. Solomon Lathrop came in 1804, but remained but a short time. Henry Lathrop, who settled here the same year, resided in town until his death. Richard Pearson, sr., came from Lyme, Conn., in 1803, and purchased a good sized tract, but did not permanently settle in Bethany until 1815. Richard Peck, who located here in 1806, was a lieutenant in Colonel Rumsey's regiment in the war of 1812. Jedediah Lincoln located in town in 1805, and Peter Putnam a short time afterward.

Among the other inhabitants of the town who are recorded as having resided here before the war of 1812 were the following: Solomon Kingsley, Peter Adley, Joan Boynton, William Coggeshall, W. B. Cogges-

shall, James Cowdrey, Jeremiah Cowdrey, Lewis Disbrow, Peleg Douglass, John Grimes, Elisha Giddings, Joseph Hawks, Thomas Harding, John Halsted, Alanson Jones, John Roberts, Israel Shearer, David Tyrrell, Joel S. Wilkinson, Isaac R. Williams, William Williams, David Anderson, Israel Buell, Abel Buell, Erastus Bennett, James Bennett, Jeremiah Bennett, Joseph Bartlett, Eli Bristol, Jason Bixby, Jonathan Bixby, John Chambers, Ezekiel Fay, John Greenough, John Huntington, Thomas Halsted, Asher Lamberton, Gershom Orvis, Eli Perry, Alfred Rose, Richard Stiles, Josiah Southard, Elisha Wallace, Peter Wilkinson, Isaac Wilson, Philo Whitecomb, Joseph Adgate, Elisha Andrews, Lewis Barney, D. W. Bannister, Peter Davidson, Chester Davidson, Moses Goodrich, Liberty Judd, David Ingersoll, David Morgan, Henry Miller, Mather Peck, Thomas Starkweater, David Stewart, Joseph Shedd, Eben Wilson, Heman Brown, Buell Brown, Sylvester Lincoln, jr., Moses Page, Elisha Hurlburt, Nathaniel Brown, Calvin Barrows, Eleazer Faunce, O. Walker, W. Waite, sr., Israel Cook, Alexander Grimes, Daniel Marsh, Jesse Rumsey, Judge Wilson, Charles Smead, Robert Lounsbury, Israel Fay.

The first mill in Bethany was built about 1808, at Linden, by a man named Coles. The dam was twenty four feet high. In 1810 another mill was built at that point by Judge Isaac Wilson. In 1809 or 1810 Calvin Barrow erected a carding and woolen mill, which was widely patronized for many years. Judge Wilson had one of the first general stores in town. He was also a justice of the peace for several years, and the first postmaster at Linden. Joseph Chamberlain was the proprietor of the first tavern at that point. The first tavern in the town, however, was that kept by Sylvester Lincoln and opened for business in 1805. At Canada a mill was in operation very early, perhaps as early as 1808. Its proprietor was a man named Bennett, and the locality was known for some time as Bennett's Mills. Nathaniel Brown built a grist mill at West Bethany in 1811.

Religious services were held in Bethany as early as 1810, when the Methodist brethren conducted camp meetings at "Bennett's." The year following services were held by Benjamin Barlow, a local preacher, Brother Howe and Father Waller. Dr. Jonathan K. Barlow was the pioneer physician of the town.

The first inhabitant of Darien was Orange Carter, who came from Vermont in 1803 and located near Darien village, or Darien City. The year following Isaac Chaddock, also from Vermont, located in the same

vicinity. Stephen Parker opened a tavern in 1808, which was the first in town. Amos Humphrey built the first saw mill in town in 1809. It was located on the banks of Eleven Mile creek.

Saxton Bailey, accompanied by his son Joshua, removed to Darien in 1806 and purchased a farm of six hundred acres. His family followed two years later. Of these one son, Daniel, became a captain in the war of 1812. John Bardwell and his family, including his son Dexter, removed here from Orange county, Vt., in 1810. Peleg Bowen, a native of Galway, Saratoga county, N. Y., removed to Darien in 1811. He spent his life upon his farm, and served with honor in the war of 1812. Owen Curtis, a native of Warren, Conn., came to Darien in 1808 and bought a farm, on which he resided for seventy years.

The pioneer Orange Carter was born December 23, 1774, in Connecticut. His wife was Betsey Rumsey of Vermont. Mr. Carter had been employed for several years assisting in the survey of the Holland Purchase, and the farm he selected in the north part of the town was one of the finest in Genesee county. For a year his nearest neighbor lived three and one-half miles distant, in Alexander, and he had to travel six miles to find a grist mill. Mr. Carter served in the war of 1812. He died in Wisconsin in 1855, aged eighty-one years.

Brazilla Carter, a native of Connecticut, settled in 1812 in Darien, after a trip of six weeks, with an ox sled and cart, from his New England home. He died at the age of eighty-six years on the farm where he first settled.

Abner C. Colby, Reuben Colby and Daniel Colby removed to Darien from Canaan, N. H., in 1812, taking contracts for land at three dollars per acre, with ten years' time for payment. Their farms adjoined one another and the settlement became known as the Colby neighborhood.

Jonathan Durkee, a graduate of Dartmouth College, came to Darien in 1810 and took up four hundred acres of land. He became prominent in the affairs of the town, serving as justice and supervisor.

Alva Jefferson and Ichabod Jefferson were pioneers of 1812, locating in the southern part of the town.

Colonel Abraham Matteson, a native of Bennington, Vt., removed from that place to Darien in 1805, with his wife, formerly Betsey Woodard of Bennington. He entered the war of 1812 as a private and was mustered out as a colonel. He held numerous offices, serving as a justice for sixteen years. He also represented Genesee county in the State Assembly. He died in 1831.

Henry Saulsbury, born at Schodack, Rensselaer county, N. Y., about 1790, removed to Darien in 1810, residing there the balance of his life. He held numerous local offices and was a man of influence.

Other pioneers of Darien of this period included George Wright, David Goss, Rufus Kidder, Israel Doane, James Day, Captain Jonathan Bailey, Benjamin Carter, David Carter, John Long, David Long, John Lamberton, Stephen Parker, Joseph Peters, Samuel Carr, S. D. Cleveland, A. L. Clemens, Owen Curtis, Amos Humphrey, John Sumner, James G. Tiffany, H. G. Tiffany, D. Tiffany, Major William Thayer, Jonathan Vaughan, Daniel Jones, Levi Jones, Jotham Sumner, Orris Boughton, E. N. Boughton, John Ball, Peleg Brown, Nathaniel Jones, John Murray, Jerome Sumner, Joel Sutherland, Harry Stone, Jonas Kinne, Winslow Sumner, Tyler Sumner, David Sutherland, John Sutherland, John Stickney, Daniel Carter, Frank Chapin and Ira J. Tisdale.

Elba was first settled in 1804. July 11, 1803, the Holland Land Company issued to John Young a deed to land south of Elba village. In the spring of the following year Mr. Young and his wife came from Virginia on horseback, and located on their new farm. For a while they endured great hardships and privations. It is related that their first bed was a large cotton bag which they purchased of Mr. Brisbane at the Transit storehouse and filled with the down of "cat tails." Mr. Young at once set to work to clear up and cultivate his land, and soon found himself in possession of a most fertile and productive farm. His log house was the first erected in the town of Elba.

Soon after the arrival of John Young, in 1804, John Roraback established himself at the point which afterwards became known by the name of Pine Hill. He was a weaver, and for many years manufactured "homespun" for most of the settlers within a radius of several miles. A little later Bannan Clark, Thomas Turner and Ephraim Wortman settled in the same community. Patrick O'Fling was also a very early inhabitant. He and his three sons and a son-in-law fought in the war of 1812. Mr. O'Fling had previously served in the Revolution. The Drake family—Samuel, John, Jesse and James—came to town in 1811. Lemuel Foster came about the same time. In 1808 Eleazer Southworth, Asa Sawtelie, Sherrard Parker and Daniel Mills located here. George and John Mills settled near the latter, and that community was known for years as the Mills neighborhood. Near the latter Locklin Norton located about 1809. In 1808 Isaac Higley founded a home in the eastern section of the town. Borden Wilcox,

Dudley Sawyer, Deacon Seymour, Sylvanus Humphrey and Enos Kellogg were also residents of the town during or prior to 1812. The existing records also show the names of Dr. Daniel Woodward, Reuben Perry, Col. E. J. Pettibone, David Kingsley, Elisha Kellogg, John Willis, Archibald Whitten, Thomas Parker, Nathaniel Johnson, Hiram Smith, Col. Samuel Hall, Mark Turner, Nelson Parker, Phineas Barr, Loren Barr, John Lamberton, Ira Howe, Isaac Barber, John Howe, Phineas Howe, Simeon Hosmer, Cornelius Barr, Richard Edgerton, Dudley Sawyer, Samuel Cummings, Nathan Miner, Silas Torrey, Edmund Burgess, Horace Jerome, Joel Jerome, Joseph Mills, Aaron White, Stephen Harmon, Mason Turner, Asa Babcock and Samuel Laing.

Horace Gibbs and Comfort Smith erected the first saw mill and grist mill on Spring creek in 1810.

Mason Turner opened a school on Gifford Hill, at the house of J. W. Gardner in 1811. This was the first school established in Elba.

Dr. Daniel Woodward probably was the first physician to practice in this town.

The exact date of the first permanent settlement within the limits of the present town of Alexander is not definitely known. Early gazetteers state that Alexander Rea or Rhea located here in 1802, and that John Oney (Olney), Lewis Disbrow, George Darrow and William Blackman followed in 1802 and 1803. It is known that Alexander Rhea, for whom the town was named, obtained a deed to a tract of land in 1802, but it is doubtful if he settled upon it in that year. He erected a saw mill on the site of Alexander village in 1804, but may have become a resident before that date. Mr. Rhea was one of the surveyors employed by the Holland Land Company. Later on he was a brigadier-general of the State militia, and also served as State senator for several terms. He was a man of influence and amassed a fortune. In 1809 he removed from his first farm and took up a larger tract, since known as the Pearson farm.

Some authorities refer to William Blackman as the first actual settler, though it probably never will be known whether his occupation of land in the town antedated that of Rhea. Elijah Root and William Johnson came in 1803 or 1804. In the latter year Lillie Fisher, Caleb Blodgett, Benham Preston, Joseph Fellows, Elisha Carver, Elias Lee, John Lee, Solomon Blodgett, Samuel Russell and Elijah Rowe were recorded as owners of land. Some of those who took up

land in 1806 were John Churchill, David Clark, Henry Rumsey, Jonas Blodgett, Isaac Chaddock, Captain Ezekiel T. Lewis, Alexander Little, B. Lyman, J. McCollister, David Carter, John Chamberlin, Aaron Gale, Timothy Fay, Henry Williams, Elnathan Wilcox and Amos Jones. The latter taught the first school in the town. Ezekiel Churchill, G. W. Wing, Philo Porter, S. Bradway, Rudolphus Hawkins and Joseph Gladden settled here in 1807. Timothy Hawkins came during this period from Tolland, Conn. William Adams, who located in the village about 1807, built a saw mill and grist mill soon afterward. He was for some time a lieutenant in the State militia.

William Parrish and his son Isaac came from Randolph, Vt., in 1806. The latter was pressed into service during the early part of the war of 1812, while on a business trip to Batavia, but was allowed to return home after reaching Buffalo. Hon. Abel Ensign and Harvey Hawkins settled in town in 1808, and were proprietors of the first tavern and store. The year following Lyman Riddle, John Squires, Thomas Rice, Shubael Wing and Edmund Tracy purchased land and founded homes. Levi Thompson and Moses M. Page located here in 1810, and soon afterward Colonel Seba Brainard settled in the same neighborhood. John and Samuel Latham, who came about the same time, erected the first frame dwelling in Alexander. In 1810 and 1811 Gehial Stannard, William Waite, Spencer Waldo, John Cady and Return B. Cady became their neighbors. Captain Elisha Smith, who settled at Alexander village in 1812, was a native of Washington county, N. Y., and a soldier in the war of 1812. Timothy Mooers built the first mill at Alexander village. Leverett Seward, another pioneer, was a soldier in the war of 1812 and served twice in the Assembly.

The early history of Pembroke is closely identified with that of Darien, and the names of most of the early settlers of the former town are contained in the preceding pages of this chapter devoted to the pioneer history of Darien. David Goss made the first settlement in 1804. He came from Massachusetts and erected a dwelling which he also used as a tavern. Dr. David Long, from Washington county, N. Y., John Long, his son, and Samuel Carr settled in town in 1808, and Joseph Lester, from Connecticut, in 1809. Samuel Carr built the first grist mill and saw mill, and also kept a tavern, believed to have been the first in Pembroke. The Longs located at what is now Corfu, and for many years that neighborhood was known as Long's Corners. Dr. Long was the first medical practitioner to establish himself in Pem-

broke. Anna Horton opened a school in 1811, the first in town. Jonas Kinne, who came to Long's Corners in 1812, soon after erected a commodious two story tavern, which became a famous public house for those days.

Although the old gazetteers affirm that Peter Crosman, who located in Pavilion in 1809, was the first settler in that town, recent research shows that settlements were made within the present limits of the town at least four years earlier than that date. Isaac D. Lyon, who removed to this town in 1805, doubtless was the pioneer white inhabitant. The next record extant shows that in 1807 Richard Walkley and the Lawrence family established homes in the town. Peter Crosman came in 1809, and in the same year we find settlements made by Levi and James McWethy, Solomon, Ezra and Laura Terrill. Reuben Burnham, Dr. Benjamin Hill, William Halbert, Orange Judd, Rowland Perry, Joshua Shumway, Calvin Spring, Erastus Spring, Amos Spring, Elliott Terrill and Ezra Walker came in 1810; Barber Allen, Amasa Allen, Issachar Allen, William Almy, Lemaa Bradley, Samuel Bishop, H. B. Elwell, Libbeus Graves, Calvin Lewis, Daniel Lord, Samuel Phelps, Elijah Phelps, Page Russell, Cyril Shumway, Noah Starr, Isaac Storm, Jesse Sprague, Daniel Walker, Isaac Walker, Loomis Walker and Sylvanus L. Youtig in 1811; and Harry Conklin, Lovell Cobb, Francis Herriek, Richard Pearson, W. E. Pearson, D. W. Matteson, Isaac Shepard, Hazel Thompson, Dr. Abel Tennant and Dr. Daniel White during or before 1812.

Ezra Terrill, one of the most prominent of the earliest pioneers, came from Vermont in 1809. He bought four hundred and eighty acres near Union Corners, and erected thereon a log house. He married Roxanna Elliott. Daniel Lord was a tailor, and he and his wife made many suits of clothing for the soldiers of the war of 1812. Captain James Sprague, a native of Connecticut, in company with Aaron Spaulding, built the first saw mill in the neighborhood, on the Oatka. Amasa Allen and his wife, formerly Lucinda Loomis, was one of those who came in 1811. Captain Issachar Allen, his son, was an officer in the State militia. Dr. Daniel White, the first physician in town, was a surgeon in the war of 1812.

James Walsworth, who came to Alabama in 1806, and opened the first tavern there, was the first settler in that town. As far as can be ascertained from careful study of the records he was the only one to locate in that town prior to 1812.

Benham Preston, who originally located in Batavia, and who removed to Byron in 1807 or 1808, was the first permanent settler in that town. In 1808 Elisha Taylor and —— Hoskins took up land and built homes there. Mr. Taylor came from Otsego county, N. Y. The following year the colony was increased by the arrival of Wheaton Carpenter from Rhode Island, Elisha Miller from Pennsylvania and Chester T. Holbrook from Cayuga county. In 1810 Nathan Holt came from Otsego county, and in 1811 Asa Merrill immigrated from Oneida county. Chester T. Holbrook taught the first school, which was opened in 1810. The earliest religious services were held in 1809 by Rev. Royal Phelps, a Presbyterian clergyman from Cayuga county. The first religious society in town was the Baptist church organized in 1810 by Elder Benjamin M. Parks. The first grist mill and saw mill were erected by Samuel Parker in 1809 or 1810.

In addition to those already mentioned as pioneers of Byron, the following are recorded as having settled in the town in the years mentioned: 1806, Sherrard Parker; 1807, Benoni Gaines; 1808, Elijah Loomis; 1809, Asahel Cook; 1810, Richard G. Moses, Elijah Brown, Elkanah Humphrey, E. Taylor; 1811, John Bean, David Cook, Andrew Dibble, Benajah Griswold, Amasa Walker; 1812, Paul Bullard, David Shedd, Ezra Sanford, Zeno Terry, William Terry.

According to the survey of the Holland Purchase into ranges and townships, the various counties and their towns, as at present organized, were included in the ranges and townships of the original survey as follows:

Allegany County.—Bolivar, Township 1, Range 1. Wirt, t. 2, r. 1. Friendship, t. 3, r. 1. Belfast, t. 4, r. 1. Caneadea, t. 5, r. 1. Hume, t. 6, r. 1. Genesee, t. 1, r. 2. Clarksville, t. 2, r. 2. Cuba, t. 3, r. 2. Belfast, eastern part of t. 4, r. 2. New Hudson, western part of t. 4, r. 2. Rushford, t. 5, r. 2. Centreville, t. 6, r. 2.

Wyoming County.—Pike, t. 7, r. 1. Gainesville, t. 8, r. 1. Warsaw, t. 9, r. 1. Middlebury, t. 10, r. 1. Eagle, t. 7, r. 2. Weathersfield, t. 8, r. 2. Orangeville, t. 9, r. 2. Attica, t. 10, r. 2. China, t. 7, r. 3. Java, t. 8, r. 3. Sheldon, t. 9, r. 3. Bennington, t. 10, r. 3. China, t. 7, r. 4. Java, t. 8, r. 4. Sheldon, t. 9, r. 4. Bennington, t. 10, r. 4.

Genesee County.—Bethany, t. 11, r. 1. Stafford, eastern part of t. 12, r. 1. Batavia, western part of t. 12, r. 1. Elba, t. 13, r. 1. Alexander, t. 11, r. 2. Batavia, t. 12, r. 2. Elba, eastern part of t. 13, r.

2. Oakfield, western part of t. 13, r. 2. Darien, t. 11, r. 3. Pembroke, t. 12, r. 3. Alabama, t. 13, r. 3. Darien, t. 11, r. 4. Pembroke, t. 12, r. 4. Alabama, t. 13, r. 4.

Orleans County.—Barre, t. 14, r. 1. Barre, southern part of t. 15, r. 1. Gaines, northern part of t. 15, r. 1. Carlton, t. 16, r. 1. Barre, t. 14, r. 2. Ridgeway, western tier of lots in t. 15, r. 2. Barre, southeastern part of t. 15, r. 2. Gaines, northeastern part of t. 15, r. 2. Carlton, t. 16, r. 2. Shelby, t. 14, r. 3. Ridgeway, t. 15, r. 3. Yates, t. 16, r. 3. Shelby, t. 14, r. 4. Ridgeway, t. 15, r. 4. Yates, t. 16, r. 4.

Cattaraugus County.—Portville, t. 1, r. 3. Portville, southern part of t. 2, r. 3. Hinsdale, northern part of t. 2, r. 3. Hinsdale, southern part of t. 3, r. 3. Rice, northern part of t. 3, r. 3. Lyndon, t. 4, r. 3. Farmersville, t. 5, r. 3. Freedom, t. 6, r. 3. Olean, t. 1, r. 4. Olean, southern part of t. 2, r. 4. Hinsdale, northern part of t. 2, r. 4. Hinsdale, southern part of t. 4, r. 4. Rice, northern part of t. 3, r. 4. Lyndon, eastern part of t. 4, r. 4. Franklinville, western part of t. 4, r. 4. Farmersville, t. 5, r. 4. Machias, southwestern corner lot of t. 6, r. 4. Freedom, residue of t. 6, r. 4. Burton, t. 1, r. 5. Burton, t. 2, r. 5. Humphrey, t. 3, r. 5. Franklinville, t. 4, r. 5. Machias, t. 5, r. 5. Machias, southern tier of lots in t. 6, r. 5. Yorkshire, part of t. 6, r. 5. Yorkshire, southeastern part of t. 7, r. 5. Carrolton, t. 1, r. 6. Carrolton, southern part of t. 2, r. 6. Great Valley, northern part of t. 2, r. 6. Great Valley, t. 3, r. 6. Ellicottville, t. 4, r. 6. Ellicottville, southern part of t. 5, r. 6. Ashford, northern part of t. 5, r. 6. Ashford, southern part of t. 6, r. 6. Little Valley, t. 1, r. 7. Little Valley, t. 2, r. 7. Little Valley, t. 3, r. 7. Mansfield, t. 4, r. 7. Otto, t. 5, r. 7. Otto, southern part of t. 6, r. 7. Ashford, part of t. 6, r. 7. South Valley, t. 1, r. 8. Cold Spring, t. 2, r. 8. Napoli, t. 3, r. 8. New Albion, t. 4, r. 8. Otto, eastern part of t. 5, r. 8. Persia, western part of t. 5, r. 8. Otto, southeastern part of t. 6, r. 8. Persia, southwestern part of t. 6, r. 8. South Valley, t. 1, r. 9. Randolph, t. 2, r. 9. Connewango, t. 3, r. 9. Leon, t. 4, r. 9. Dayton, t. 5, r. 9. Perrysburgh, t. 6, r. 9.

Erie County.—Sardinia, northwestern part of t. 6, r. 5. Sardinia, northern and western parts of t. 7, r. 5. Holland, t. 8, r. 5. Wales, t. 9, r. 5. Alden, t. 11, r. 5. Newstead, t. 12, r. 5. Newstead, southern part of t. 13, r. 5. Sardinia, northeastern part of t. 6, r. 6. Concord, northwestern part of t. 6, r. 6. Sardinia, eastern part of t. 7, r. 6. Concord, western part of t. 7, r. 6. Colden, t. 8, r. 6. Aurora, t. 9, r. 6. Lancaster, t. 11, r. 6. Clarence, t. 12, r. 6. Clarence, southern part of

t. 13, r. 6. Concord northeastern part of t. 6, r. 7. Collins, northwestern part of t. 6, r. 7. Concord, eastern part of t. 7, r. 7. Collins, western part of t. 7, r. 7. Eden, western tier of lots in t. 8, r. 7. Boston, eastern part of t. 8, r. 7. Hamburg, t. 9, r. 7. Black Rock, two western tiers of lots in t. 11, r. 7. Amherst, northern tier of lots in t. 11, r. 7. Cheektowaga, residue of t. 11, r. 7. Tonawanda, two southeastern lots in t. 12, r. 7. Amherst, residue of t. 12, r. 7. Amherst, southern part of t. 13, r. 7. Collins, northern part of t. 6, r. 8. Collins, t. 7, r. 8. Eden, t. 8, r. 8. Evans, southwestern part of t. 9, r. 8. Hamburg, residue of t. 9, r. 8. Buffalo City, as constituted in 1850, southwestern part of t. 11, r. 8. Black Rock, residue of t. 11, r. 8. Tonawanda, southern and eastern parts of t. 12, r. 8. Brandt, southern part of t. 8, r. 9. Evans, northern part of t. 8, r. 9.

Niagara County.—Royalton, northern part of t. 13, r. 5. Royalton t. 14, r. 5. Hartland, t. 15, r. 5. Somerset, t. 16, r. 5. Royalton, northeastern part of t. 13, r. 6. Lockport, northwestern part of t. 13, r. 6. Royalton, eastern part of t. 14, r. 6. Lockport, western part of t. 14, r. 6. Hartland, eastern part of t. 15, r. 6. Newfane, western part of t. 15, r. 6. Somerset, eastern part of t. 16, r. 6. Newfane, western part of t. 16, r. 6. Pendleton, northern part of t. 13, r. 7. Lockport, eastern part of t. 14, r. 7. Cambria, western part of t. 14, r. 7. Newfane, eastern part of t. 15, r. 7. Wilson, western part of t. 15, r. 7. Wheatfield, northwestern part of t. 12, r. 8. Wheatfield, t. 13, r. 8. Cambria, eastern part of t. 14, r. 8. Lewiston, western part of t. 14, r. 8. Wilson, eastern part of t. 15, r. 8. Porter, western part of t. 15, r. 8. Niagara, t. 13, r. 9. Lewiston, t. 14, r. 9. Porter, t. 15, r. 9.

Chautauqua County.—Carroll, t. 1, r. 10. Poland, t. 2, r. 10. Ellington, t. 3, r. 10. Cherry Creek, t. 4, r. 10. Villanovia, t. 5, r. 10. Hanover, t. 6, r. 10. Ellicott, northern tier of lots in t. 1, r. 11. Carroll, southeastern part of t. 1, r. 11. Busti, southwestern part of t. 1, r. 11. Ellicott, t. 2, r. 11. Gerry, t. 3, r. 11. Charlotte, t. 4, r. 11. Arkwright, t. 5, r. 11. Hanover, four lots in the southeastern part of t. 6, r. 11. Sheridan, residue of t. 6, r. 11. Busti, eastern part of t. 1, r. 12. Harmony, western part of t. 1, r. 12. Busti, southeastern part of t. 2, r. 12. Harmony, southwestern part of t. 2, r. 12. Ellery, northern part of t. 2, r. 12. Stockton, northern tier of lots in t. 3, r. 12. Ellery, residue of t. 3, r. 12. Stockton, t. 4, r. 12. Pomfret, t. 5, r. 12. Pomfret, t. 6, r. 12. Harmony, t. 1, r. 13. Harmony, t. 2, r. 13. Stock-

ton, northeastern lot in t. 3, r. 13. Ellery, residue of the eastern tier of t. 3, r. 13. Chautauqua, western part of t. 3, r. 13. Stockton, eastern tier of lots in t. 4, r. 13. Portland, northwestern part of t. 4, r. 13. Chautauqua, residue of t. 4, r. 13. Portland, t. 5, r. 13. Clymer, t. 1, r. 14. Sherman, t. 2, r. 14. Chautauqua, eastern part of t. 3, r. 14. Westfield, western part of t. 3, r. 14. Chautauqua, southeastern part of t. 4, r. 14. Westfield, residue of t. 4, r. 14. French Creek, t. 1, r. 15. Mina, t. 2, r. 15. Ripley, t. 3, r. 15.

The names of all the purchasers of land in Genesee county, from the commencement of the land sales up to January 1, 1807, are given below. They appear in the order in which the contracts were taken each year, their locations being designated by townships and ranges. Reference to the plan of Genesee county as it appears in the foregoing tabulation will show in what towns these settlements were made, and what year:

1801.—Batavia village, Abel Rowe, Stephen Russell, David McCracken.

Township 12, range 1, Worthy L. Churchill, William Rumsey, Daniel Curtis, William Blackman, Hiram Blackman, William Munger, Eleazer Cantling, Nathaniel Walker, John A. Thompson, Peter Stage, Jesse Rumsey, John Dewey, Zenas Bigelow.

Township 12, range 2, Gideon Dunham, Isaac Sutherland, Samuel F. Geer, Peter Lewis, John Forsyth, John Lamberton, Russel Noble.

Township 12, range 3, Orlando Hopkins, Otis Ingalls, David Cully, Peter Vandeventer.

Township 13, range 2, Aaron White, Peter Rice.

1802.—Batavia village, Charles Cooley, James McKain, Elisha Gettings, Joseph Alvord, Zerah Phelps, Elijah Tillotson, James W. Stevens, Hezekiah Rhoads, Rufus Hart, Israel M. Dewey, James Brisbane, William Wood, Major Nobles, Russell Crane, Oswald Williams, Rowlen Town, Silas Chapin, Ebenezer Cary, Paul Hinkley, Timothy Washburn, Moses Hayse, James Holden, Elijah Spencer, Benjamin Russell, Paul Hill, Peter Powers, Daniel Curtis, Libbeus Fish, Henry Wilder, Jesse Hurlbut.

Township 11, range 2, Lewis Disbrow.

Township 12, range 1, Elisha Adams, Roswell Graham.

Township 11, range 2, Alexander Rea,¹ John Olney, George Darrow.

Township 12, range 2, Samuel F. Geer, Benjamin Morgan.

¹ This name appears on the records as both Rea and Rhea.

Township 13, range 2, Daniel Ayer, Job Babcock.

1803.—Batavia village, John S. Leonard, James Clement, Jeremiah Cutler, Elisha Mann.

Township 11, range 1, John Torrey, Charles Culver, Abner Ashley, Elisha Wallace, David Hall, Sylvester Lincoln, M. Scott, Nathaniel Pinney, Orsamus Kellogg, George Lathrop, Solomon Kingsley, Jedediah Riggs, Horace Shepherd, John Dewey, Lyman D. Prindle, Samuel Prindle, Oliver Fletcher.

Township 12, range 1, Lewis Disbrow, Ebenezer Eggleston, Peter Powers, Enos Kellogg, Charles Culver, John Henry, Moses Dimmick, Robert Berry, Stephen Wickham, Lemuel T. Pringle, James Guttridge, James Fuller, John Berry, John Spencer, Burgess Squire, Moody Stone, Asa Osborne, Elisha A. Eades, Parley Fairbanks.

Township 13, range 1, Archileus Whitten, David Kingsley, Thomas Parker.

Township 11, range 2, Ezekiel Churchill, George Darrow, Elijah Root, Joseph Fellows, Miles Wilkinson, Benedict Ames.

Township 12, range 2, Peleg Douglass, Alanson Gunn, Benjamin Tainter, Henry Lake, John Lamberton, Hugh Henry, Amos Lamberton, Joshua Sutherland, William Pierce, Elisha Cox, David Bowen, Abraham Starks, William Lucas.

Township 13, range 2, Hiram Smith, Silas Pratt, William McGrath, George Lathrop, Darius Ayer, Philip Adkins, Lemuel L. Clark, James Robinson.

Township 12, range 3, Jesse Tainter, Abner Lamberton, Micajah Brooks.

1804.—Township 11, range 1, Peter Adley, Isaac Wright, Elijah Bristol, Israel Shearer, Alanson Jones, Joseph Hawks, Joel S. Wilkinson, Peleg Douglass, Isaac R. Wright, Elisha Giddings, John Smith, Abner Ashley, Charles Culver, William Coggshall, William B. Coggshall, John Halstate, John Grimes, James Cowdry, John Roberts, David Tyrill.

Township 12, range 1, Nathaniel Walker, Pardon Starks, Zenos Keyes, Benjamin Cary, Alfred Lincoln, Horace Jerome, Nathan Miner.

Township 13, range 1, John S. Sprague, Nathaniel Johnson.

Township 11, range 2, Elijah Root, Samuel Russell, Benham Preston, Elisha Carver, Elias Lee, Jesse Hawkins, Solomon Blodgett, Rufus Blodgett, John Lee, Ezekiel T. Lewis, Elijah Rowe.

Township 12, range 2, Elizur Messenger, Isaac Smith, Levi Davis, Azor Marsh, David Smith.

Township 13, range 2, Rufus Hastings, Roraback Robinson, Benjamin Chase, Solomon Baker, Samuel Jerome, sr., Samuel Jerome, jr.

Township 12, range 3, David Goss.

Township 12, range 4, John Richardson, Stephen B. Tilden, Jacob Farnham.

Township 13, range 4, James Walworth.

1805.—Batavia village, William Ewing.

Township 11, range 1, Phineas Smith, Harvey Prindle, Cyrenus Glass, William Williams, David Anderson, Solomon Lathrop, Jonathan Bixby, John Bixby, Ezekiel Fox, Philo Whitcomb, John Greenough, Gershom Orvis, Heman Brown, Nathaniel Brown, Peter Putnam, Patrick Alvord, Alford Rose, Richard Stiles, John Chambers, Thomas Halstead, John Boynton, Eli Perry, Abel Buell, Joseph Barlett, David Morgan, Asher Lamberton, Israel Buell, William Bannister, Amasa Robbins, Jesse Cowdry, Isaac Wilson, Josiah Southard, John Grimes.

Township 12, range 1, Asa Webster, James Heacocks, Oliver Sweatwell, Asa Osborn, Hiel Chapman, Abel McKain, Nathan Graham, Joseph Bentley.

Township 13, range 1, Hiram Smith, Colonel Samuel Hall, Horace Carr, Benjamin Chase, Elisha Kellogg, Dudley Sawyer, Samuel Cummings, Nathan Miner, Silas Torrey, Edmund Burgess.

Township 11, range 2, John McCormick, Levi Harris, William Prout, Asa Buckley, Ezra Blodgett, Noah Brooks, Asa Frost, Nathaniel Eastman, Thomas Lee, Daniel Rawson, David Rowland, Elisha Fox, Seth Landon, Stephen Day, Abijah Warren, Samuel Reed, Daniel Davis, Manna Chase, Amos Adams, Joseph Gladden, Joseph Cady, John Olney, Gurdon Williams, Jonas Marsh, Charles C. Jackson, Elisha Sutton, William Burton, William King, Isaac King, Samuel Benedict.

Township 12, range 2, Timothy Washburn, Thomas Godfrey, Reuben W. Wilder, Rufus McCracken, Azor Nash, Lemuel L. Clark, Joel Tyrrell, Hugh Duffy, James Henry, Richard Godfrey, John Algur, John Herring, Jonathan Wood, Reuben Lamberton, Amos Lamberton, Paul Hill, Silas Dibble, jr.

Township 11, range 3, Orange Carter, Israel Doane, Samuel Russell, James Jones, David Clark.

Township 12, range 4, Francis B. Drake, David Saries, Noah Pease, Ephraim Pease.

1806.—Township 11, range 1, Daniel W. Bannister, Jerry Cowdry, Thomas Starkweather, Mons Goodrich, Lewis Barney, David Morgan,

Ebenezer Wilson, David Filkin, Peter Davidson, Chester Davidson, Franklin Putnam, David Stewart, Lyman D. Prindle, Joseph Shedd, Henry Miller, Orsamus Kellogg, Ebenezer Eggleston, Henry Rumsey, Elisha Bristol, Elijah Andrews, David Ingersoll, Joseph Bartlett.

Township 12, range 1, Solomon Sylvester, Daniel B. Brown, Israel Graham, Moses Norton, Peter Putnam, Amos Jones, Alvah Jones, Stephen Powell, Webster Powers, Robert Norton, Benjamin Graham, Joseph Savacool, Henry Stringer, jr., Samuel Ranger, Peter Stage, Gordon Huntington, John Gould.

Township 13, range 1, Joel Jerome, James Mills, Horace Jerome, Aaron White, Enos Kellogg, Ephraim Wortman, Benjamin Chase, Sylvester Eldridge, Silas Torrey, John Koraback.

Township 11, range 2, Elijah Root, jr., Ezra Whipple, John Humphrey, James Clisby, Jacob Thompson, Amos Thompson, George Har- rick, Joseph Carpenter, David S. Clement, William Wood, Noah Brooks, Benjamin C. Goodrich, Joel Munn, Phineas Munn, John W. Lawson, Andrew McLean, Ebenezer Seeley, John Olney, Joseph Van Debogart.

Township 12, range 2, Newcomb Godfrey, Elijah Clark, Richard God- frey, William J. McCracken, Edmund Badger, William H. Bush, Othniel Field, James Post, Caleb Blodgett, Samuel Risey, Elisha A. Eades, Joshua Barrett, Elisha Morehouse, Thomas Godfrey.

Township 13, range 2, Micajah Green, Caleb Blodgett, jr., George Hoge, Eldridge Buntley, Nicholas Bentley, George Harper, James Cros- sett, John Harper, David Woodworth, David Clark, William Parrish, Ezra Thomas, Caleb Blodgett.

Township 11, range 3, Amos Jones, Joseph Fellows, Timothy Fay, Henry Rumsey, David Carter, Elnathan Wilcox, John Chamberlin, Alexander Little, Nahum Thompson, Jonas Blodgett, Isaac Chaddock, John McCollister, Burnhan Lyman, Henry William, David Clark, John Churchill, jr., Reuben Nichols, Joseph Peters, Aaron Gale.

Township 12, range 4, John Richardson, Jariel Scott, Samuel Carr.

Following are the names of the first persons who took contracts and, in most instances, became pioneer settlers in the various towns of Gene- see county embraced within the limits of the Holland Purchase in which no contracts were taken previous to January 1, 1807. The names of those who settled in the county previous to that date are found in a list which appears in previous pages:

1810.—Township 13, range 3, town of Alabama, Jesse Lund, David Gary, Charles Bliss, Levi Smith, John S. Wolcott, Nathan McCumber.

1807.—Township 11, range 4, town of Darien, William Humphrey, Emery Blodgett, Joshua Bailey, Josiah Lee, Rufus Kidder, Amos Humphrey, David Long.

1822.—Township 13, range 4, town of Alabama, Benjamin Patterson, Solomon Force, Augustus L. Barton, Joseph Barber, Ezra N. Russell.

CHAPTER X.

The War of 1812, and the Part Taken Therein by the Inhabitants of Genesee County.

While the United States and Great Britain were ostensibly at peace during the period from 1783 to the beginning of 1812, the two nations were far from being on friendly terms. Great Britain continued her depredations wherever practicable. She maintained military posts on the Canadian frontier, despite the treaty stipulations to the contrary, and constantly menaced our trade and commerce and our frontier settlements. When Congress, realizing probably that another conflict was inevitable, began to build a navy, Great Britain took offense. In 1797 this country put into commission three frigates—the Constitution, the Constellation and the United States. Each carried a full complement of guns. At the close of the year 1798 the United States had a navy of twenty-three vessels, with an aggregate of four hundred and forty-six guns.

As soon as it was learned that this country was placing itself on a war footing, the British formed a plan to cripple the American navy. The first intimation of the intentions of Great Britain came November 16 of that year, when Captain Phillips, in command of the American cruiser Baltimore, sailed from the harbor of Havana, Cuba, to escort a number of merchant vessels to Charleston, S. C., and protect them from attack by French privateers, which then infested the western waters of the Atlantic. Just outside the harbor Captain Phillips met a British squadron and advanced toward the Carnatick, the flagship, to speak with the commander as an act of courtesy.

Then, without a word of warning, the British squadron bore down upon the American merchantmen and seized three of them. Captain

Phillips went on board the *Carnatick* to protest, but was informed that every man on the *Baltimore* who could not prove that he was a native-born American would be compelled to enter the British service then and there. Captain Phillips announced that he would prefer to make a formal surrender, but this privilege was denied him. Upon returning to his own vessel he found that a British officer was mustering the American sailors. Fifty-five of these were transferred to the *Carnatick*, but later, when Phillips struck his flag, all but five of them were returned. These five men, with the three merchant vessels seized, were carried away by the British squadron.

Great Britain at that time was the acknowledged mistress of the seas, consequently all that the United States government could do was to protest against the outrage. Not only was no attention paid to the protest, but Great Britain continued to prey upon American commerce upon the high seas, impressing into her service the best American sailors during the next fourteen years. Great Britain claimed the right of search, not only as regarded American vessels, but also all neutral vessels, her desire being to look for British subjects to press them into the British naval service for her war with France. Every time America offered to endeavor to reach a friendly understanding with Great Britain on the subject the offer was rejected or not noticed.

In 1807 Napoleon, in his attempt to compel the United States to become his ally as against Great Britain, issued a decree declaring all vessels which submitted to the right of search and impressment by Great Britain to be denationalized and subject to capture if caught going to or coming from a British port, or on the high seas. Spain and Holland, desirous of pleasing Napoleon, issued similar decrees. These acts placed the commerce of the United States in a dangerous position. The menace was all the greater by reason of the fact that our principal foe maintained a naval force along the American coast for the purpose of preying upon our commerce.

Early in 1807 the British frigate *Leopard* fired upon the United States frigate *Chesapeake* upon the refusal of Commodore Barron, in command of the latter vessel, to grant to the British commander the privilege of searching his vessel, killing and wounding twenty men. As soon as the American colors were hauled down the *Chesapeake* was boarded by officers of the *Leopard*. Commodore Barron tendered his vessel as a prize, but Captain Humphrey, the British commander, refused to accept her, knowing that such an act would give the Americans

a valid claim against his government. The crew of the Chesapeake was then mustered. Three Americans who had once been impressed into the British service were placed in irons, and John Wilson, a British seaman who had deserted, was taken on board the Leopard. All four were sentenced to be hanged, and Wilson was executed, but the three Americans reprieved upon condition that they should enter the British naval service.

This act naturally aroused an intense feeling of resentment upon the part of the people of the United States. The British government disclaimed the act and recalled Humphrey from service in the navy; but two of the captured Americans sailors were held in slavery on British ships for five years, while the third died in the service.

Up to this time the strife between the Federalist and Democratic parties in America had been so fierce that a great civil war was feared. Taking advantage of the situation, Great Britain endeavored to increase this antagonistic feeling by establishing a propaganda of anti-democracy. John Henry, an Irishman, who was a naturalized citizen of the United States, residing in the State of Vermont, contributed to the press some letters denouncing the federal officials for their incompetency and declaring that the country was incapable of self-government. His letters were noticed by Sir James Craig, governor of Canada, who in 1806 sent the author an invitation to come to Montreal. In that city arrangements were made by which Henry was to devote his entire time to the propagation of popular discontent in the United States, Sir James promising him £30,000 if he should succeed in inciting the Americans to civil war. He was granted authority to offer the Federalists the support of British influence, should such a promise be needed to encourage them. After five years of steady work this project failed, and Henry was refused compensation for his labors. Piqued at his treatment, he came to the United States and revealed the entire plot to President Madison. All knowledge of the plot was denied by the British ministry, but when it was proposed to submit to a court of inquiry all the correspondence in Henry's possession, the proposition was voted down by the House of Lords.

In 1807 the United States Senate passed an embargo bill prohibiting all ships then in American ports from sailing for any foreign port, excepting that foreign ships might sail in ballast. This act was a declaration to the world that the United States would voluntarily sever all connections with the rest of the world until Great Britain, France,

Spain and Holland should end their obnoxious practices and allow American ships to sail the seas unmolested. The effect of this act was to annihilate the commerce of this country, and in 1809 it was repealed upon the urgent solicitation of the business men of the country. In its place was passed a non-intercourse act, which simply prohibited trade with Great Britain and France. A little more than a year later this act was also repealed. Madison now having succeeded Jefferson as president, upon the recommendation of the former another embargo act, to obtain for sixty days, was passed, and the country, the limit of its endurance having been reached, began preparations for war.¹

War was formally declared June 19, 1812. At that time the British had in Upper Canada a force of fifteen hundred regulars, besides six thousand in the valley of the St. Lawrence. Canada had a British population of four hundred thousand and a militia of forty thousand to draw from. They also had formidable strongholds along the American frontier. Opposite Buffalo stood Fort Erie; near the falls of Niagara was Fort Chippewa, and at the mouth of the Niagara river stood Fort George. At sea they were simply overwhelming in strength, as compared with the United States. The only forts the Americans possessed in this vicinity were at the mouth of the Niagara river and at Oswego. To handicap us still further thirty five hundred American sailors were at that time practically held in slavery on board of British men-of-war, where they would be compelled to fight against their own country.

The population of the entire region west of the Genesee at the beginning of the war probably was between twenty five and thirty thousand. The population principally centered upon the Buffalo road and in the few small villages. Away from this thoroughfare the population existed in small neighborhoods and isolated families. The region was poorly prepared for war. There were no perfect military organizations, although there were several small local militia companies, organized more for parade than anything else. Their training, when it came to a question of actual warfare, amounted to practically nothing. But the American spirit was the same in 1812 as in '76, and the peaceable pioneers were transformed as if by magic from raw and inexperienced soldiers into brave and effective fighting men. The spirit of patriotism, of liberty, became the father to the genius of warfare. The backwoodsmen of Genesee county were among the bravest and hardest soldiers who served in that crisis in the affairs of the American commonwealth.

¹ These events have been cited simply to explain the causes leading up to the stirring events which took place in the good county of Genesee during the years of 1812-1814.

The proclamation of President Madison, carried by couriers mounted on fleet-footed horses, traveling by relays, reached Fort Niagara June 26 and Black Rock, the headquarters of Colonel Swift, the same day. As these couriers passed through the country they spread the news as they rode, so that the entire community was informed of the advent of war almost as soon as the official intelligence had been received by the officers on the frontier. There was a general feeling of insecurity, almost of helplessness for the moment, as it was known that the enemy, close at hand, were fully prepared for a war, and even for invasion of our territory, while the preparations for defense upon our side were almost wholly lacking. Some of the more timid, magnifying the danger which menaced them, fled eastward across the Genesee. At the same time immigrants from New England and other eastern points, fearless and undismayed, continued their journey into the heart of the famed "Genesee county," willing and anxious to take up arms to repel the invader if necessary.

Unfortunately the news of the declaration of war reached Canada at least twelve hours before the officers on the American frontier had been informed. John Jacob Astor, who had immense fur interests in Canada, dispatched a messenger from New York to notify Thomas Clark, his representative at Queenston. This measure was adopted by Mr. Astor for the purpose of insuring, if possible, the safety of the immense cargoes of furs coming down the Great Lakes. As soon as the news had been received in Canada all Americans in that country were arrested, and preparations for hostile actions were immediately begun. The first intelligence the people of Buffalo had of the inauguration of hostilities was when a small vessel, bound up Lake Erie from Black Rock with a cargo of salt, was captured and taken to Fort Erie.

May 21, 1812, the armed force upon the Canadian frontier of New York consisted of about six hundred men only, excepting the garrison at Fort Niagara. These men had been called out by the governor of the State in pursuance of an act of Congress. While the governor's requisition was for a draft of the militia, most of these soldiers were volunteers, under command of Colonel Swift. July 4, eight days after the news of the declaration of war was received, this force had been increased to about three thousand. General William Wadsworth first assumed general command, but he was soon succeeded by General Amos Hall, who in turn was succeeded, August 11, by General Stephen Van Rensselaer, who made his headquarters at Lewiston. The Cana-

dian troops were in command of General Brock, the acting governor of the province.

“One of the most fruitful sources of apprehension and alarm in the earlier stages of the war was the fear that the Seneca Indians would revive their ancient predilections and be found allies of the British and Canadian Indians. Their position was at first enigmatical—undefined. Their chiefs, prominent among whom was Red Jacket, at that period, counseled and maintained neutrality; and neutrality was unfavorably construed by the border settlers. Their position of neutrality was, however, early secured by a talk in council. But when these apprehensions were partially quieted, every breeze that came from Canada or from the west brought with it to the scattered border settlements of the Holland Purchase rumors rife with accounts of contemplated Indian leagues, and banded descents with the tomahawk and scalping knife. Judge Erastus Granger, the then government Agent of the Senecas, took an early opportunity to hold a council with them and get assurances of neutrality. In a letter from Mr. Ellicott to Mr. Busti, dated July 7, 1812, he assures him of the entire safety of the country from invasion—of comparative quiet, and adds:—‘I send by the mail that carries this letter our last newspaper, which contains a speech made by an Indian chief to the inhabitants of this village, and our reply, by which it will be seen that our Indians are disposed to be on good terms with us—and that they have declared the Mohawk Indians, residing in Canada, out of the confederation of the Six Nations, and of course, “enemies in war, in peace, friends.”’ This position of neutrality, partially preserved in the first stages of the war, was not long maintained. The Senecas, rightly determining their true position and interests, soon became fast friends to the United States,—useful armed allies, in several contests.”¹

At a council held by the Indians in the summer of 1812 a formal declaration of war was adopted and placed in writing by an interpreter. It read as follows:

We, the chiefs and counselors of the Six Nations of Indians, residing in the State of New York, do hereby proclaim to all war chiefs and warriors of the Six Nations that war is declared on our part against the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada. Therefore, we command and advise all the war chiefs and warriors of the Six Nations to call forth immediately the warriors under them, and put them in motion to protect their rights and liberties.

¹ Turner's History of the Holland Purchase, pages 588 and 589.

² This is probably the only document of the kind ever issued by an Indian nation or tribe.

Despite this formidable declaration, and through the influence of such of their chiefs as desired to maintain a strictly neutral attitude during the war of 1812, the Indian share in the work of the battlefield during that struggle was very small. Doubtless the early American disasters had something to do with causing this proclamation to remain practically a dead letter.

The hastily organized militia which began to hurry to the frontier was enthusiastic, but the organization of these bodies was imperfect and, for the most part, the discipline very poor. When this militia finally reached the field of actual hostilities and the smell of burning powder and the rattle of artillery and musketry reached its members, it is hardly remarkable that the trial was too much for most of them.

The plan for the campaign of 1812 embraced the invasion of Upper Canada, at Detroit and at Niagara, and the employment of regulars, volunteers and militia. Governor Hull of Michigan, who was in Washington in the spring of this year, told the president that the British, anticipating war with this country, had sent throughout the northwest emissaries bearing arms and presents to the Indians and endeavoring to procure an alliance with them. For this reason Hull objected to the invasion of Canada from Detroit, as this would leave Michigan open to attacks from the savages. In pursuance of his advice, Commander Stewart was sent to Lake Erie with orders to construct a fleet. The president also called upon Governor Meigs of Ohio for twelve hundred militia, which, with a regiment of regulars, assembled at Dayton. May 25 Hull arrived and assumed command. When he arrived at Detroit on July 4 he found the British erecting fortifications at Sandwich, across the river. Hull's defense of Detroit was a complete and shameful failure, largely the result of his own incompetency, and August 16 the fort and the troops, about two thousand, were surrendered to the enemy. Hull was afterward court-martialed, convicted of cowardice and sentenced to be shot, but his age and service in the Revolution caused the court to recommend mercy, and he was pardoned by the president.

Early in the campaign it became evident that American success on the northern and Niagara frontiers could be achieved only with absolute control of Lake Ontario. The Americans therefore built a small navy on Lake Ontario. During the summer important events occurred on the Niagara frontier, which was thinly settled at that time. August 13 Major-General Stephen Van Rensselaer, in command of the detached

militia of New York State, arrived at Fort Niagara. At this time the condition of Niagara was pitiable. Five thousand men had been promised to General Van Rensselaer, but as late as September 1 his entire force on the Niagara frontier was but six hundred and ninety. Two weeks later he asked Governor Tompkins and General Dearborn, who was highest in command in the Lake region, for reinforcements, explaining in detail the precarious situation in which his army and the frontier then was. By October 1 detachments of regulars and bodies of militia began arriving, the former, under command of General Alexander Smyth, halting at Buffalo, and the latter, under General Amos Hall, being stationed at Lewiston. In the latter were numbers of men from Genesee county.

The plan to be carried out by Van Rensselaer, if possible, was to concentrate the regulars near Niagara, where they were to cross the river, and storm and take Fort George from the rear. At the same time the militia, under the personal command of Van Rensselaer, were to cross the river from Lewiston and take the heights of Queenston. But through the delay and disobedience of General Smyth, a proud Virginian attached to the regular army, who "could not bend to the necessity of obedience to a militia general,"¹ Van Rensselaer was greatly delayed in undertaking offensive operations.

In the meantime Lieutenant J. B. Elliott of the United States Navy had captured the *Detroit* and the *Caledonia* off Fort Erie. The former was originally the brig *Adams*, taken by the British at the surrender of Hull, and the latter was the property of the Northwestern Fur Company, laden with a cargo valued at two hundred thousand dollars. Unfortunately the captors were compelled to burn the *Detroit* and set her adrift to keep her from again falling into the hands of the forces of General Brock, but the *Caledonia* was saved and afterwards did service under Commodore Perry on Lake Erie. This daring exploit caused unbounded enthusiasm throughout the United States, and correspondingly depressed the enemy.²

After tolerating the insolent conduct of Smyth until the American troops were on the verge of mutiny, October 10 General Van Rensselaer prepared to move upon Queenston Heights. The force under his com-

¹ Lossing.

² General Brock, in a letter to Sir George Prevost, October 11, 1812, said: "The event is particularly unfortunate, and may reduce us to incalculable distress. The enemy is making every exertion to gain a naval superiority on both lakes, which, if they accomplish it, I do not see how we can possibly retin the country."

mand comprised thirty-six hundred and fifty regulars and twenty-six hundred and fifty militia, stationed at Niagara, Lewiston and Black Rock, while the British force numbered seventeen hundred and fifty, including two hundred and fifty Indians under John Brant. The enemy had planted batteries at every formidable point, commanding the landings at both Lewiston and Queenston. It was decided to make the attack upon Queenston at three o'clock on the morning of October 11, the invading force to be under command of Colonel Solomon Van Rensselaer. The attack was destined to be delayed, however. The troops assembled for embarkation at the hour designated, but Lieutenant Sims boarded the first boat and rowed away in the darkness, preventing the dispatching of the remaining boats, all the oars for the expedition having been stored in the boat taken by him. Passing a considerable distance beyond the point selected for landing, he stepped on shore and fled at his utmost speed. Whether this act was the result of cowardice or treachery will never be known. This incident necessarily resulted in the temporary abandonment of the plans.

At three o'clock in the morning of October 13 the troops crossed the river, and the regulars, under command of Captain John E. Wool, charged gallantly up the heights, which were soon gained. The approach of the Americans was soon noted by the enemy, and lively firing began, Colonel Van Rensselaer and Captain Wool both being wounded. When the battle began General Brock was at Fort George, seven miles down the river. He at once proceeded to the scene of the action at full speed, accompanied by his staff, but Wool and his men came upon them as soon as they had reached the heights. The entire company of officers fled in dismay, and the American flag was soon floating over the battery near which they stood. Brock's next step was to lead a body of his troops to drive Wool from the heights. The superior force of the British pressed the Americans back to the edge of the precipice, which rises perpendicularly two hundred feet above the Niagara; but at this critical moment, when they seemed to be lost, Wool's heroism and cheering words inspired the little band of Americans, who turned furiously upon the enemy, driving them in utter rout down the hill.

A few moments later, as Brock was rallying his men at the foot of the hill preparatory to an attempt to take the position from which they had been forced, he fell, mortally wounded.

Until Gen. William Wadsworth of the New York militia arrived to

take command, Wool was left in charge of the heights. In the meantime General Sheafe assumed command of the forces of the enemy, which he again rallied. Lieut.-Col. Winfield Scott had crossed the river and joined the Americans on the heights as a volunteer, and at the request of General Wadsworth assumed active command. Early in the afternoon a band of Indians under the leadership of John Brant attacked the American pickets with great fury. The militia were about to flee, when the loud voice and towering form of Scott checked them. Then, an instant later the entire body under him, about six hundred, turned on the savages and drove them into the woods.

By this time General Van Rensselaer was endeavoring to forward reinforcements from Lewiston; but these refused to go, evidently through cowardice, announcing that they were not compelled to leave the soil of the United States. They therefore remained safely at Lewiston, while their fellow countrymen were being killed by the score. While Van Rensselaer was entreating these troops to accompany him across the river, the troops engaged in the action were fairly overwhelmed by the enemy, and soon were compelled to surrender. Their loss had been one hundred and ninety killed and wounded. Nine hundred were made prisoners, and sent to Newark. The loss of the enemy in killed, wounded and prisoners was only about one hundred and thirty.

Thoroughly disgusted by the unaccountable conduct of the militia and the jealousies of some of the regular officers, General Van Rensselaer now resigned his command to the boastful and proud General Smyth, who at once began to concentrate troops at Buffalo preparatory to the invasion of Canada. While these preparations were being made, the enemy began the bombardment of Fort Niagara, on November 21, from breastworks in front of Newark. At nightfall the fort had been considerably damaged, but it was gallantly and successfully defended by its little garrison.

General Smyth had planned his invasion of Canada for the morning of the 28th. But before moving he had issued innumerable proclamations, which gave the enemy all the information they needed about the contemplated movements of the American army. The landing on Canadian soil was effected at three o'clock in the morning, but by a small force only. The general embarkation, for some mysterious reason, was postponed one day, while those who had reached the western shore of the river fell captives to the enemy. By this time the whole American force was thoroughly disgusted with the actions of the wordy

Smyth. The general embarkation began at three A. M. on Tuesday, December 1, when 1,500 men entered the boats. General Porter was to lead and direct the landing. But by the time everything was in readiness to proceed Smyth astonished his officers by suggesting—in fact, ordering—that the invasion be not made at all that season. Consequently the troops were all ordered ashore, the militia and many of the volunteers were sent to their homes, and the regular army went into its winter quarters.

So great was the indignation against the incompetent Smyth for this act of tremendous folly that he was more than once fired upon when he left his tent. General Porter charged him with cowardice, and in the quarrel which ensued Smyth challenged his accuser to mortal combat. Porter accepted the challenge and a meeting was had. After each had fired, and neither had been injured, the two men apologized to each other and shook hands. Smyth resigned December 22, being succeeded by Col. Moses Porter. Thus closed the campaign of 1812.

The campaign of 1813 opened almost at the same time on the shores of Lake Ontario, on the coast of Virginia and in the valley of the Maumee. General Harrison's operations in the West were successful, and he was able to protect the inhabitants on the borders of Lake Erie. But the spring was well advanced before much activity was seen on the Niagara frontier. At this time General Dearborn was in command of the entire northern frontier. April 25 he sailed from Sacket's Harbor in Commodore Chauncey's fleet, with seventeen hundred troops under the immediate command of General Zebulon Pike. The plans of both the navy and army were to attack York (Toronto), Fort George, Fort Erie and Chippewa, and then proceed to Kingston. April 27 the fleet appeared before Toronto and began the attack; but the British, in desperation, blew up their powder magazine located on the lake shore, killing fifty-two Americans and wounding one hundred and eighty. General Pike and ten of his aids were among those mortally wounded. The British lost forty killed in the same explosion. The place soon after surrendered, but the Americans, deeming it of little strategic value, abandoned it.

On account of tempestuous weather the attack upon Fort George was delayed a week. Commodore Chauncey, General Dearborn and other officers of the fleet and army proceeded in advance of the main body and chose a landing place four miles east of Fort Niagara. At that time the force of the enemy in and near Fort George, all under

command of General Vincent, numbered about eighteen hundred. May 8 the American troops landed at the place designated, and Chauncey returned to Sackett's Harbor for reinforcements and supplies. May 22 he reached the American camp east of Fort Niagara. Oliver Hazard Perry reached that point the evening of the same day.

May 27 the troops were taken to a spot a short distance west of the mouth of the Niagara, where a landing was effected under cover of the guns of the fleet. Under the leadership of Colonel Scott and the dashing young Perry, and in the face of a terrific fire the brave Americans ascended the bluff which skirts the shore at that point, and the British retreated a short distance. After spiking their guns and destroying their ammunition, the enemy abandoned the fort and retreated to Beaver Dams, where they had a stock of supplies.

While the victory at Fort George was being accomplished, the garrison at Fort Erie opened a brisk cannonade upon Black Rock; but the following morning the British exploded their guns and magazine, destroyed their stores, and abandoned the fort, which was immediately occupied by the Americans under Colonel Preston. Within a brief time the enemy had destroyed everything else that could be of value to the Americans and which was located near the river on the Canadian side, leaving the latter in full possession of the entire Niagara frontier.

By midsummer General Dearborn's operations had progressed so little and met with such small success that he was superseded, on July 6, by Major-General Wilkinson. Meanwhile five vessels which had been quietly fitted out at the mouth of Scajaquada creek sailed away, on June 15, and joined Perry's fleet at Erie.

In June General Dearborn had withdrawn the regular soldiers from Buffalo and Black Rock, leaving a large quantity of stores practically unprotected. Realizing his error, probably, he stationed ten artillerymen in the block house at Black Rock and issued a call for five hundred militia from neighboring counties. A few days before Dearborn relinquished command about three hundred of these militiamen arrived and were posted in the warehouses at Black Rock, under command of Major Parmenio Adams of Genesee county. Before the work of garrisoning this point was completed, however, a British expedition of about four hundred men under Colonel Bishopp started to attack the place. On the afternoon of July 10 this force left its headquarters at Lundy's Lane, rowed up the river and at daylight of the 11th landed a mile below the mouth of the Scajaquada. Soon the forces under Major

Adams learned of the advance of the enemy, and fled precipitately, without firing a gun or making the slightest show of resistance. The British at once occupied the camp which the American militia had abandoned, and small detachments started out to capture officers and prominent citizens at their homes. General Porter managed to escape just before the British reached his home, but left his arms and part of his clothing. As he was approaching the village he met a body of one hundred regulars under Captain Cummings, whom he ordered to station themselves near by and await reinforcements. At Black Rock fifty citizens placed themselves under Captain Bull and went to reinforce Cummings's command. About one hundred of Adams's retreating militia, who had been kept together by Lieutenant Phineas Staunton, rallied for the recapture of the position. Chief Farmer's Brother of the Senecas also gathered a band of his warriors together and joined the American forces. Volunteers came in from other places in the neighborhood, all eager to make the attack upon the unsuspecting British, who believed they had effected a victory whose results would be permanent.

At eight o'clock the assault was ordered. The surprise of the enemy was complete. Colonel Bishopp fell from his horse badly wounded, and his men became demoralized. When the American regulars pressed forward the entire British force fled in confusion to the bank of the river. The militia, which had fled in fright a few hours before, now fought like veterans, springing to their work with the utmost enthusiasm and bravery. The forest resounded with the war-whoops of the Senecas engaged in the fight. After retreating as far as Black Rock the enemy embarked in boats found there, but the pursuing Americans kept up a strong fire on the craft, mortally wounding the gallant Colonel Bishopp, who died five days later. The boat in which he lay was the last to leave the shore, and immediately after he fell it signalled its surrender. The entire British loss during this expedition in killed, wounded and missing has been variously estimated at from seventy to one hundred. The Americans lost three killed and five wounded. The British did not destroy more than one-third of the valuable naval stores at Black Rock, destined for the use of Perry, nor did they succeed in reaching the military stores at Buffalo.

During the succeeding few weeks several minor engagements took place. August 12 Perry and his little fleet left Erie, reaching Put-in-Bay on the 15th, where a plan of campaign was arranged with General

Harrison. On September 10 occurred his memorable battle with the British fleet under Captain Robert H. Barclay, after which he sent to General Harrison the historic dispatch: "We have met the enemy and they are ours."

This remarkable naval victory gave the Americans undisputed control of Lake Erie, and inspired the entire country. Other successes followed during the balance of the year, and the feeling of discouragement which had pervaded many sections of the country gave way to general expressions of joy.¹ But while success rewarded the valor of American arms elsewhere, the campaign along the Niagara frontier was wretchedly managed during the ensuing few months. General Wilkinson unwisely withdrew the main body of his troops to the lower end of Lake Ontario, though strongly advised not to do so by General Porter and other officers. Porter, Chapin and McClure offered to raise a thousand men to aid him in making a sally from Fort George; or, if provided with artillery, they offered to invade the enemy's country and conquer the British. Wilkinson's stubborn refusal to see the wisdom of either of these suggestions was the beginning of the mismanagement which marked operations on the frontier from that time until the spring following.

When Wilkinson left Fort George he turned over the command of that post to General McClure, who now had one thousand militia, sixty regulars and two hundred and fifty Indians. The terms of enlistment of volunteers and militia were rapidly expiring. He endeavored to retain them by offering small bounties, but they declined to remain in the service. Soon after the news came that Generals Drummond and Riall had arrived on the peninsula with reinforcements from Kingston, and that a body of troops under Colonel Murray was moving on Fort George. Upon being apprised of this movement McClure determined to abandon his post and post his garrison in Fort Niagara. Before doing so, however, he notified the inhabitants of the village of Newark that he intended to burn that place, which he did a few hours after notice had been given. Of the one hundred and fifty houses in that village but one was left standing, and a large number of women and children were driven from their homes to face the blasts of a severe winter with no other protection than that afforded by the clothing they

¹"The people were becoming more and more a unit in opinion concerning the righteousness of the war on the part of the Government, and its beneficial effects in developing the internal resources of the country; also in demonstrating the ability of a free government to protect itself against a powerful foe."—Loring.

wore and could carry with them. This cruel and totally unnecessary act was roundly condemned by many of McClure's officers, but it had been sanctioned by the War Department.¹

After abandoning Fort George and making an attempt to destroy it by explosion, McClure stationed one hundred and fifty regulars in Fort Niagara, and on December 12 proceeded to Buffalo, whither he called two hundred additional regulars from Canandaigua. Soon after Colonel Murray, with five hundred British soldiers and Indians, occupied the ground which the Americans had abandoned.

General McClure's unwise and unnecessary act in devastating Newark was justly censured by those who believed in honorable warfare, and particularly, as an imprudent measure, by those who felt confident of the retributive blow that soon was to follow.

Soon after the British had taken possession of Fort George, the awful work of devastation on the part of themselves and their Indian allies began, in retaliation for the burning of the village of Newark. About sunrise of December 19 a party of Indians who had left the main body reached Lewiston, where a small force was stationed under command of Major Bennett. The Americans retreated with the loss of half a dozen men. Among those killed in the indiscriminate slaughter that followed the attack was Dr. Alvord, one of the pioneer physicians of Batavia. As soon as the assault began the inhabitants of that part of the frontier began a retreat eastward. With them went the Tuscarora Indians, whose village was in that vicinity. The invaders met with no formidable resistance, except upon Lewiston Heights, as they attempted to advance to Niagara Falls. Here Major Mallory and a small body of volunteers, who had been stationed at Schlosser, drove the enemy down the hill; but the lost ground was soon recovered, and there was a fine show of resistance all the way to the mouth of Tonawanda creek.

During the summer of 1814, the British being in possession of Fort Niagara, parties of Indians from that stronghold occasionally ventured out and attacked inhabitants who had returned to their homes. In these expeditions the Indians—and frequently the British, too—inflicted great damage upon the inhabitants of that region. Terror reigned in

¹ The Secretary of War, then at Sackett's Harbor, addressed General McClure, "or officer commanding at Fort George," as follows, under date of October 4, 1813: "Understanding that the defense of the post committed to your charge may render it proper to destroy the town of Newark, you are hereby directed to apprise the inhabitants of this circumstance, and invite them to remove themselves and their effects to some place of greater safety. JOHN ARMSTRONG."

all the territory west of the Genesee. Anticipating a further march of the invading force, and an attack upon Batavia, where there were an arsenal and considerable military stores, General Hall soon collected a force from General Wadsworth's brigade, and a number of volunteers from Genesee county, and established headquarters at Batavia. On Christmas day, a considerable force having been organized and armed, the troops started to march to Buffalo. There he found a disorganized and confused body of troops, and all were in consternation and dismay. These were organized with the force already under his command and preparations for resisting the enemy were made at once.

About midnight of December 29 news was received at Buffalo that a British force had crossed the Niagara river near the head of Grand Island, fired on a patrol of mounted men, and taken possession of a battery located upon the site of the lower village of Black Rock. General Hall at once ordered out the troops at Buffalo, but believing that the attack at Black Rock was intended simply to draw off the main force at Buffalo, in order to enable the enemy successfully to attack that place, he decided not to proceed against the British. Colonels Warren and Churchill, who were in command at Black Rock in the absence of General Hopkins, were ordered by General Hall to attack the enemy, dislodge them from their position they had taken and drive them from their boats. The attack was hastily prepared and made under cover of intense darkness, but failed to accomplish its purpose. The attacking force was dispersed; whereupon the main body of troops at Buffalo was ordered to proceed toward Black Rock. A small corps of men headed by Colonel Chapin and Major Adams made a second assault upon the battery, but this force, too, was dispersed. These two failures foreshadowed what was to come. The story of the events of the morning of December 30 is told in the following extract from an official dispatch from General Hall to Governor Tompkins:

As the day dawned I discovered a detachment of the enemy's boats crossing to our shore, and bending their course toward the rear of Gen. Porter's house. I immediately ordered Col. Blakeslie to attack the enemy's force at the water's edge. I became satisfied as to the disposition and object of the enemy. Their left wing, composed of about one thousand regulars, militia, and Indians, had been landed below the creek, under the cover of the night. With their centre, consisting of four hundred royal Scots, commanded by Col. Gordon, the battle was commenced. The right, which was purposely weak, was landed near the main battery, merely to divert our force; the whole under the immediate command of Lieut. Col. Drummond, and led on by Maj. Gen. Riall. They were attacked by four field pieces in the battery at

the water's edge, at the same time the battery from the other side of the river opened a heavy fire upon us, of shells, hot shot and ball. The whole force now opposed to the enemy was, at most, not over six hundred men, the remainder having fled, in spite of the exertions of their officers. These few but brave men, disputed every inch of ground, with the steady coolness of veterans, at the expense of many valuable lives. The defection of the militia, by reason of the ground on which they must act, left the forces engaged, exposed to the enemy's fire in front and flank. After standing their ground for half an hour, opposed by an overwhelming force and nearly surrounded, a retreat became necessary to their safety, and was accordingly ordered. I then made every effort to rally the troops, with a view to attack their columns as they entered the village of Buffalo, but all in vain. Deserted by my principal force, I fell back that night to Eleven Mile creek, and was forced to leave the flourishing villages of Black Rock and Buffalo a prey to the enemy, which they have pillaged and laid in ashes. They have gained but little plunder from the stores; the chief loss has fallen upon individuals.

This disaster was the culmination of a series of events in a badly managed campaign. The efficient forces upon that part of the frontier had been withdrawn and untrained and unorganized militia from Western New York assigned to the important duty of defending one of our most vulnerable points. The entire invading force under General Riall was but a little over one thousand, while our force was numerically superior; but the enemy had the advantage of thorough organization and fair discipline.

Though the cowardice and flight of many of the soldiers who participated in this engagement, not to speak of the panic-stricken ones who fled without making a show of resistance, was a disgrace to American arms, the records show that the untrained soldiers from Genesee county who volunteered their services behaved most admirably. This county complied promptly with the military requisitions made upon it, though the majority of those who so bravely went to the front made greater personal sacrifices than the representatives of most communities who fought in that war. The growing crops, whose failure meant little less than the desolation of many homes, were deserted when the call to arms was issued; and this meant much in a new country like that west of the Genesee. The absence of the tillers of the soil and the consequent neglect of the crops produced unusual distress and suffering among the inhabitants.

The volunteer militia performed valiant service, frequently equal to that of the regulars; but as a rule the work of the men who waited to be drafted was wretched, cowardly. It was the latter class that permitted itself to be so completely routed by General Riall's forces.

About three o'clock on the afternoon of the 30th, after the invading forces had reduced Buffalo and Black Rock to ashes, the enemy crossed the river from the latter point with the public and private property they had captured. They also took with them about ninety prisoners, about half of whom were from Colonel Blakeslie's troops. More than forty were killed and denuded and their mutilated bodies left upon the snow. Among the Americans slain, the highest officer was Lieutenant-Colonel Boughton of Avon. The enemy lost about thirty killed and sixty wounded; but not an officer was killed, and only two were wounded. Had the two thousand Americans been well disciplined and in command of thoroughly efficient officers in all cases, there is little doubt that the enemy might have been driven back across the river and held at bay, temporarily at least, and much loss and suffering averted. When General Hall reached Williamsville he rallied a few hundred fugitives and called for reinforcements, but this step was taken too late, as there was no more fighting.

The scenes and incidents of that memorable day, December 30, along the principal thoroughfares leading eastward, including the Big Tree road, can never be properly described. In the rush was an indiscriminate mob of militia, citizens, sleighs, ox-sleds, wagons, horsemen and horsewomen, children and infants, all with one thought uppermost in their minds--to get as far from Buffalo and Black Rock as possible, and with the greatest speed. "An ox sled would come along bearing wounded soldiers whose companions had pressed the slow team into their service; another with the family of a settler, a few household goods that had been hustled upon it, and one, two or three wearied females from Buffalo, who had begged the privilege of a ride and the rest that it afforded; then a remnant of some dispersed corps of militia, hugging as booty, as spoils of the vanquished, the arms they had neglected to use; then squads and families of Indians, on foot and on ponies, the squaw with her papoose upon her back, and a bevy of juvenile Senecas in her train; and all this is but a stunted programme of the scene that was presented. Bread, meats and drinks soon vanished from the log taverns on the routes, and fleeing settlers divided their scanty stores with the almost famished that came from the frontier."¹ The news of the disaster flew faster than the fugitives, and many homes were found deserted.

January 1 a body of the enemy again appeared at Buffalo and burned

¹ Turner's History of the Holland Purchase.

the few remaining houses, excepting one occupied by an aged woman and her two daughters. Just as the work of destruction was completed a detachment of mounted men was seen crossing Scajaquada, and the British hastily mounted and rode down the hill. The Americans fired upon them and Adjutant Tottman, who was in command, was killed.

For weeks the frontier remained deserted and desolate. The villages of Buffalo, Black Rock, Niagara Falls, Lewiston and Youngstown and the intervening tenements and farm houses presented one long panorama of ruin.

Batavia, being the principal place at a comparatively safe distance east of Buffalo, became the final rallying point of what was left of the American army, and the headquarters for the homeless refugees from the frontier. The most valuable articles, including the records, of the Land Office, were carried east of the Genesee river. Mr. Ellicott's residence was converted into headquarters for the officers of the army, and his office into a hospital; barns and sheds were occupied and many private houses were thrown open. Had it not been for the hospitality of the inhabitants of Batavia the condition of the fugitives would have been inestimably worse than it was. The following letter will give some idea of the condition of the country west of Batavia during the period immediately succeeding the disaster on the Niagara frontier:

CANANDAIGUA, 8th Jan., 1814.

Gentlemen:

Niagara county and that part of Genesee which lies west of Batavia are completely depopulated. All the settlements in a section of country forty miles square, and which contained more than twelve thousand souls, are effectually broken up. These facts you are undoubtedly acquainted with; but the distresses they have produced, none but an eye-witness can thoroughly appreciate. Our roads are filled with people, many of whom have been reduced from a state of competency and good prospects to the last degree of want and sorrow. So sudden was the blow by which they have been crushed, that no provision could be made either to elude or meet it. The fugitives from Niagara county especially were dispersed under circumstances of so much terror that in some cases, mothers find themselves wandering with strange children, and children are seen accompanied by such as have no other sympathies with them than those of common sufferings. Of the families thus separated, all the members can never again meet in this life; for the same violence which has made them beggars, has forever deprived them of their heads, and others of their branches. Afflictions of the mind so deep as have been allotted to these unhappy people, we cannot cure. They can probably be subdued only by His power who can wipe away all tears. But shall we not endeavor to assuage them? To their bodily wants we can certainly administer. The inhabitants of this village have made large contributions for their relief, in provisions, clothing and money. And we have been ap-

pointed, among other things, to solicit further relief for them, from our wealthy and liberal minded fellow citizens. In pursuance of this appointment, may we ask you, gentlemen, to interest yourselves particularly in their behalf. We believe that no occasion has ever occurred in our country which presented stronger claims upon individual benevolence, and we humbly trust that whoever is willing to answer these claims will always entitle himself to the precious reward of active charity. We are, gentlemen, with great respect,

WM. SHEPARD,
THAD'S CHAPIN,
MOSES ATWATER,
N. GORHAM,
MYRON HOLLEY,
THOMAS BEALS,
PHINEAS P. BATES,

Committee of Safety and Relief at Canandaigua.

To the Hon. Philip S. Van Rensselaer,
Hon. James Kent,
Hon. Ambrose Spencer,
Stephen Van Rensselaer, Esq.,
Elisha Jenkins, Esq.,
Rev. Timothy Clowes,
Rev. William Neill,
Rev. John M. Bradford.

In response to this appeal the State Legislature immediately appropriated \$50,000; the Common Council of Albany, \$1,000; the Common Council of New York, \$3,000. Liberal subscriptions were also made by residents of New York, Albany, Canandaigua and other localities, including \$2,000 by the Holland Land Company and \$200 by Joseph Ellicott. The entire relief fund amounted to about \$63,000, which did much toward relieving the immediate wants of the sufferers from the war.

As soon as the intelligence of the invasion reached the national capital, President Madison directed General Lewis Cass to proceed to the scene, investigate the causes of the disaster and suggest such measures of relief and defense as should appear necessary. In a letter written by General Cass to the Secretary of War, dated January 12, 1814, the former says:

The fall of Niagara has been owing to the most criminal negligence. The force in it was fully competent to its defence. The commanding officer, Captain Leonard, it is confidently said, was at his own house, three miles from the fort, and all the other officers appear to have rested in as much security as though no enemy was near them. Captains Rogers and Hampton, both of the 24th, had companies in the fort. Both of them were absent from it. Their conduct ought to be strictly investigated. I am also told that Major Wallace of the 5th was in the fort. He escaped

and is now at Erie. The circumstances attending the destruction of Buffalo you will have learned before this reaches you. But the force of the enemy has been greatly magnified. From the most careful examination I am satisfied that not more than six hundred and fifty men, of regulars, militia and Indians, landed at Black Rock. To oppose these we had from two thousand five hundred to three thousand militia. All except a very few of them behaved in the most cowardly manner. They fled without discharging a musket. The enemy continued on this side of the river until Saturday. All their movements betrayed symptoms of apprehension. A vast quantity of property was left in the town uninjured, and the Ariel, which lies four miles above, is safe. Since the first inst. they have made no movement. They continue to possess Niagara, and will probably retain it until a force competent to its reduction arrives in its vicinity.

The campaign of 1814 was as brilliant and successful, as a whole, as that of 1813 had been disastrous. Experience had been a bitter, but competent, teacher, and the campaign was now conducted by the Americans with more vigor and judgment. In the spring troops began to arrive on the frontier. New officers were in command, and rigid discipline and general efficiency were inaugurated. General Riall commanded the Canadian frontier and had headquarters on Queenston Heights. The One Hundredth Regiment of the British army was stationed along the river from Chippewa to Fort Erie. April 10 General Winfield Scott arrived at Chippewa. A few weeks later Major-General Jacob Brown arrived on the frontier and assumed the chief command. His forces comprised two brigades, commanded respectively by General Scott and Colonel Eleazer W. Ripley, to each of which was attached a small body of artillery. There was also a small troop of cavalry. All were under excellent discipline and high spirits. In addition to these troops were about eleven hundred volunteers from New York and Pennsylvania, and about six hundred Indians who had been inspired to help the Americans by the eloquence of the famous Red Jacket. These volunteers and Indians were under the chief command of General Peter B. Porter.

In the latter part of May General Scott removed his headquarters to Buffalo, where the troops were constantly drilled and perfect discipline maintained. By July 1, the Americans were ready for action. The day following Generals Brown, Scott and Porter reconnoitered Fort Erie and laid plans for its capture. The capture of these works was comparatively easy. Sunday morning the army passed over the river. General Scott's brigade and the artillery corps of Major Hindman landed nearly a mile below Fort Erie, between two and three o'clock in the morning. General Ripley and his brigade landed about the same

distance above the fort. A little later a small force of Indians crossed over. The enemy was completely surprised. The fort was approached on both sides by the army, while the Indians skirted the woods in the rear.

General Brown demanded the surrender of the garrison, giving the commander two hours to reach a determination. Meantime a battery of "long eighteens" was planted where it commanded the fort. But the enemy was overawed and surrendered at six o'clock, being immediately sent over the river to the American shore. The prisoners numbered over one hundred and seventy, all being in command of Major Burke. Several pieces of ordnance and some military stores were also captured. During the brief period of firing which took place in the morning one man was killed and two or three wounded on each side.¹

This almost bloodless capture of Fort Erie was but the beginning of a vigorous and successful campaign. July 4 Scott and his brigade proceeded to Black Creek, a few miles above Chippewa. Ripley advanced on the afternoon of the same day. The next day Scott was joined by General Porter with his volunteers and Indians. General Riall was still in command of the British forces, which in the meantime had also been considerably reinforced.

About daybreak of July 5 operations began by attacks on the American picket lines, the chief purpose of the enemy being to divert attention from the main attack against the American centre. But this plan failed. The American commander, feeling sure of his position and strength, gradually drew in his pickets and thereby led the enemy into a general action. The Indians fought splendidly under command of General Porter, Red Jacket and Captain Pollard, and the British were soon forced back towards Chippewa with heavy loss. General Porter's command followed, but on reaching the outskirts of the woods he encountered the main body of the enemy, and most of his men, being unaccustomed to the din of battle, broke away in confusion. The remainder of the army, however, soon came upon the scene, and after a sharp conflict the entire British force broke and fled to the entrenchments below Chippewa creek, destroying the bridge and thus preventing the victorious Americans from pursuing them. In this battle the American loss was sixty-one killed, two hundred and fifty-five wounded

¹This account of the capture of Fort Erie is taken from the story published in the Buffalo Gazette in its issue next succeeding the event described.

and nineteen missing. The British loss was six hundred and four, of whom two hundred and thirty-six were killed.

General Riall, in his retreat, proceeded to Queenston, occupying Fort George with part of his troops and making his headquarters twenty miles to the westward, near Lake Ontario. General Drummond, completely chagrined over the defeat of the British veterans by what he considered raw American troops, resolved that the British arms should redeem themselves. He therefore at once organized a large army, and with a force one third larger than that of the Americans under General Brown, advanced to give battle. Brown in the meantime had moved forward to Queenston, where he hoped to find Chauncey's fleet awaiting on the Niagara river to co-operate with the land forces. But Commodore Chauncey's fleet did not appear and the army was compelled to prepare to fight it out alone. Riall, however, had received considerable reinforcements in the meantime. General Brown therefore ordered a retreat to Chippewa. On the morning of the 25th news came from Lewiston that the British were at Queenston and on the Heights in considerable numbers, and that five of the enemy's fleet had arrived and were proceeding up the river. Soon after it was learned that they were landing at Lewiston. General Drummond had arrived from Kingston with reinforcements, while Riall's troops at the same time had been put in motion. That morning a large part of the forces under Lieutenant Colonel Pearson held a commanding position on an eminence in and near Lundy's Land. Brown evidently had not received intelligence of this movement, for he made plans to attack him at Queenston. Late in the afternoon he ordered a forward movement. Soon after he was informed that a large British force had been seen at Niagara Falls, but he believed that it was Drummond and his troops going up the river to capture the store of supplies at Schlosser. For the purpose of recalling the enemy he decided to menace the forts at the mouth of the river. Accordingly, about four o'clock he ordered General Scott to march rapidly after them with Towson's artillery and all the mounted men at his command.

Within twenty minutes after receiving his orders Scott's command was in motion. About half past five he crossed the Chippewa, believing that a large body of the enemy was on the other side of the Niagara instead of directly in his front. But he soon learned the true situation. He met the forces of Riall, and the memorable battle of Lundy's Lane followed.

Scott's command consisted of about 1,200 men. The British force was greatly superior in point of numbers. Retreat would have been fatal to the Americans, and Scott heroically decided to fight, though the odds were so greatly against him. Halting a moment to send a dispatch to his commander notifying the latter of the true situation, he began the attack. General Brown realized that the battle was in progress even before he had received Scott's dispatch, for he could plainly hear the report of musketry and the cannonading. Ordering the brigade under Ripley to follow him, he hastened to the field at the head of his personal staff. Meeting Scott's messenger, he ordered the latter to continue on and bring the whole force into the field. As soon as Ripley's brigade reached the field, General Brown, seeing that Scott's brigade was becoming greatly exhausted by the severe fighting they had been doing, interposed a new line between them and the enemy, thereby holding the latter in readiness for a new conflict.

The British now fell back, their right resting on a height commanding the whole plain on which they and the American forces were moving. It was now perceived that this height must be carried or the Americans would lose the battle. McRee was ordered to detach Col. James Miller with the Twenty-first Regiment for this hazardous and difficult duty, and to proceed with the remainder of the Second Brigade down the Queenston road in order to divert the attention of the enemy from his right, which was to be attacked. Turning to Colonel Miller, General Brown said:

"Colonel, can you storm that work and take it?"

"I'll try, sir," was the laconic response. And he did take it.

Miller's assault was a brilliant one.¹ The British retired in confusion from the line of advancing bayonets, leaving their cannon and several prisoners in possession of the Twenty-first Regiment. About the same time Ripley's brigade advanced and encountered the enemy on the right of Miller's operations. A part of his brigade was broken under the galling fire of the British regulars, but the line was immediately formed again and brought into action. At this moment Major Jesup, of Scott's brigade, who had been ordered to act independently on the right

¹With three hundred men he moved up the ascent steadily in the darkness, along a fence lined with thick bushes that hid his troops from the view of the gunners and their protectors who lay near by. When within a short musket range of the battery, they could see the gunners with their glowing linestocks, ready to act at the word, fire. Selecting good marksmen, Miller directed each to rest his rifle on the fence, select a gunner and fire at a given signal. Very soon every gunner fell, when Miller and his men rushed forward and captured the battery.—Lossing.

of the American army, after capturing and sending to camp General Riall and several other British officers, proceeded toward the heights as far as the Queenston road. At this point he was joined by General Brown, who directed him to advance up Lundy's Lane and form on the right of Ripley's brigade, whose left was resting upon the height defended by the captured cannon. Meantime General Porter had arrived with his command and was formed on Ripley's left.

Fresh troops had been sent from Queenston and Fort George to reinforce the enemy, which now advanced in strong force. At the first fire, however, the British fled in great confusion. A second attack was made, and the enemy fought with great obstinacy, but two or three volleys sufficed to drive them down the height. Soon another desperate assault was made, but this, too, was repulsed after a terrific hand to hand contest, the enemy fleeing in great disorder and leaving many prisoners in the hands of the victorious Americans. In the last assault both Generals Brown and Scott were wounded. The former was shot twice, but remained on his horse. General Scott, however, was disabled and carried from the field.

The Americans now fell back to Chippewa, having effectually repulsed the enemy. Here General Brown ordered Ripley, upon whom the command had devolved, to rest awhile and then reoccupy the battlefield. The latter disobeyed orders and remained at Chippewa, and this so irritated General Brown that he sent to Sackett's Harbor for General Edmund P. Gaines with orders for the latter to assume temporary command on the Niagara frontier. Through Ripley's disobedience the Americans were deprived of the substantial advantages of the hardly-earned victory, for the British returned, captured most of the cannon and again occupied the field.¹

While the Americans were really the victors, the British also laid claim to the honor by reason of their having taken possession of the battlefield after the Americans had left it. In this engagement the American loss was one hundred and seventy-one killed, five hundred and seventy-one wounded and one hundred and ten missing. The loss of the enemy was eighty-four killed, five hundred and fifty-nine wounded, one hundred and ninety-three missing, and forty-two prisoners.

On the morning of the day following the battle General Brown, Gen-

¹This battle was fought entirely between sunset and midnight. The moon was shining brightly, and as there was no breeze its later and more sanguinary incidents occurred among dense clouds of smoke caused by the burning powder.

eral Scott, Major Jesup and the other wounded officers were taken to Buffalo, Colonel Ripley being left with orders to hold his strong position at Chippewa until he could be reinforced. Hardly had the wounded officers left the scene when Ripley destroyed the military works and stores, demolished the bridge and fled with his army to the Canadian end of the Black Rock ferry. But for the strenuous opposition offered by McRee, Wood, Towson, Porter and other officers he would have crossed with the army to the American shore. He actually rode to General Brown and asked for orders to do so, but that valiant commander treated the proposition with justifiable scorn, and ordered Ripley to move his army to a good position on the lake shore just above Fort Erie, strengthen the fort and erect new defenses in expectation of a siege.¹

Within two or three days Drummond, having received eleven hundred reinforcements, prepared to move up the river. August 2 the enemy drove in the American outposts surrounding the fort and camped two miles from the fort. In the meantime the works around the fort had been strengthened and three armed schooners were anchored near at hand. Within a few days a detachment of the enemy met two hundred and forty riflemen under Major Lodowick Morgan, near the Scajquada creek; but the British were driven back across the river. While this fight was transpiring Drummond opened a cannonade on Fort Erie. This was of short duration, and at its close both sides worked hard for several days in strengthening their respective positions.

August 4, General Gaines arrived at Fort Erie and assumed the chief command, Ripley again taking command of his brigade. On the 11th the British began the siege by a heavy cannonade, which continued for a week. On the evening of the 14th a British shell exploded with terrific force in an empty magazine in the fort, and the enemy, believing that this would result in the demoralization of the American force, prepared for a direct assault upon the fort. At two o'clock on the morning of the 15th a picket of one hundred men was attacked, and a few moments later fifteen hundred of the enemy assailed Towson's battery and an abattis between that work and the shore of the lake. After a brief but desperate struggle they retired. In the meantime the Douglass battery, a stone work with two guns on the extreme American

¹ Had General Drummond known of the weakness of the American force at this juncture he might have successfully assailed their position.

right, was attacked by five hundred infantry and artillery of the enemy. This force was soon repulsed, when a body under Drummond endeavored to force an entrance over the walls with the aid of scaling-ladders. After being repulsed twice at this point, the gallant British commander went around the ditch and, in the face of a hot fire and after several attempts, he reached the parapet with one hundred of the Royal Artillery.

The success of this endeavor fairly crazed Drummond. Ordering no quarter for the Americans, he posted a band of Indians where they could rush into the works at the first opportunity and aid in the annihilation of the garrison. The British now made a fierce bayonet charge, mortally wounding several American officers who were standing the brunt of the attack. Lieutenant McDonough was killed by Drummond himself after asking for quarter. The latter fell a minute later with a bullet through his heart. Three attempts were then made to drive the enemy from the fort. Just as a fourth charge was to be made the magazine was blown up, whether by accident or design has never been learned. Many of the enemy were killed in the explosion, and the remnant, being instantly attacked by artillery and infantry, broke and fled from the fort in the greatest confusion. The explosion of the magazine doubtless saved the American force from the utter annihilation which otherwise might have been their fate. In this terrible fight the British lost two hundred and twenty-one killed, one hundred and seventy-four wounded and one hundred and sixty-eight prisoners. The American loss was seventeen killed, fifty-six wounded and eleven missing.

From this time until about the middle of September the Americans spent their time in strengthening their position and increasing their force. The British did likewise. Until the first of the month the enemy threw shells, hot shot and rockets into the fort. During this bombardment, August 28, General Gaines was so injured by an exploding shell that he was compelled to retire to Buffalo for the treatment of his wounds. Upon learning of this General Brown proceeded from Batavia and placed Ripley in command of the forces occupying the fort; but learning of the unpopularity of this officer he almost immediately assumed personal command, though still suffering from the wounds he had received in the previous action.

September 17 General Brown ordered a sortie, during which two of the British batteries were captured after thirty minutes' hot fighting. General Porter's forces accomplishing this victory. Immediately after-

wards a block-house in the rear of another battery was taken, the garrison made prisoners, the cannon destroyed and the magazine blown up. But this brilliant victory was dearly purchased, for Brigadier General Daniel Davis,¹ Colonel Gibson and Lieutenant Colonel Wood all fell mortally wounded. In the meantime General Miller had taken two of the enemy's batteries and seized the block-houses in the rear. Toward the close of the action Ripley's reserve was ordered up and he was severely wounded. Within forty minutes after the beginning of the attack the Americans were in possession of the entire British works, and Fort Erie was saved. Not only this, but in all probability this magnificent victory saved the entire Niagara frontier and Western New York. This sortie is recorded in history as more skillfully planned and gallantly executed than any other, and as one of the very rare instances in which a single sortie resulted in the raising of a siege. The Americans lost seventy-nine killed and two hundred and fourteen wounded. The British lost five hundred killed, wounded and missing and four hundred prisoners. So complete was the demoralization of the enemy that on September 21 Drummond broke up his camp and retired to the intrenchments behind Chippewa creek.

This splendid victory at Fort Erie was the most important closing event of the war on the Niagara frontier. Soon after, General Izard proceeded from Sackett's Harbor to Lewiston, reaching the latter place October 5. Six days later his forces encamped about two miles north of Fort Erie, where he assumed chief command, General Brown returning to his former post at Sackett's Harbor. Izard's command soon numbered eight thousand troops, with which he made preparations to march against the army under command of Drummond. Leaving Fort Erie well garrisoned, he proceeded toward Chippewa and endeavored to draw the enemy into an engagement—but in vain. The British commander had seen enough of the undisciplined Yankee farmers, and fell back to Fort George with as much haste as he could make without giving evidence of undue fear. Izard then returned to Black Rock

¹Brigadier General Daniel Davis resided in Le Roy and was the commander of the local volunteer soldiers. He was a man greatly beloved by those who served under him, though a strict disciplinarian. In the first military organization in Le Roy, in 1801, he was chosen lieutenant. He had a strong passion for military life. He was among the first to enlist in the war of 1812, and was rapidly promoted for his coolness and bravery until he attained the rank of brigadier general. These characteristics were especially conspicuous during the sortie from Fort Erie. With sword in his hand he led in advance of his division, and ascended the parapet, though warned not to do so. Reaching this point he instantly was shot through the neck, falling into the arms of his aide-de-camp, who had bravely accompanied him. He was buried at Le Roy.

ferry, whence the entire American army crossed over to the American side, abandoning Canada. This practically ended the war, as far as the participation of the inhabitants of Genesee county and Western New York therein was concerned. If some of the inhabitants of Genesee county had exhibited those traits in the early part of the war which brought upon their heads deserved censure, those who participated in the events of the last year of the war won undying fame by reason of their high patriotism, their coolness and bravery, their splendid obedience to the commands of their officers and their general behavior during the most critical periods of the contests in which they took part.

CHAPTER XI.

Changes Along the Various Lines of Endeavor in Genesee County from the Close of the War of 1812 to the Erection of the Present County of Genesee in 1841—Some of the Settlers of Those Days—Early Hotels—The Establishment of Important Manufacturing Industries—Schools—Many New Churches Founded—Effort to Remove the County Seat to Attica—The Farnsworth Trial—The Morgan Episode—A New Jail—The Land Office War—Discontent Among the Land Holders—Formation of the County Agricultural Society—Erection of the New Court House—Division of the Old and Creation of a New Genesee County.

At the close of the war of 1812 the county of Genesee was in a lamentable condition. Money was scarce, commerce and industry in its various branches either paralyzed or seriously crippled, and the settlement of the new districts almost at a standstill. Strangely enough, during the war many brave immigrants had taken up lands within the confines of the county, while, as soon as the war was ended, such settlement almost ceased. Batavia and Le Roy suffered less from the effects of the war than most other communities, yet even these centres of population were in a deplorable condition. A few persons from the East, possibly not realizing the situation, or not fearful of the probable hardships which they might be called upon to endure, had the hardihood to come west and locate in the county. In Batavia the following are recorded as settling during the few years succeeding the war:

1814, R. O. Holden, John Hickox, Silas Hollister, Alpheus Reynolds, T. B. Campbell, Joseph Wheaton; 1815, Guillian Bartholf, T. Beck-

with, Samuel Thomas, Richard Williams, M. Wurts, Alva Smith, E. M. Cook; 1816-1817, Libbeus Allen, Dr. John Cotes, Andrew Dibble, Richard Dibble, Oren Follett, Thomas Green, George W. Lay, Thomas McCulley, Lemon Miller, Tracy Pardee, Moses Taggart, James Walton, William Sullings, Richard Smith, William Seaver, William Watkins; 1818, Ira Boutwell, James A. Billings, Clement Carpenter, Daniel Upton, Moses Wilcox, Aaron Wilcox; 1819, J. I. Bartholf, Thomas Bliss, Andrew Adams; 1820, Wheaton Mason, Seth Wakeman.

These settlements were recorded in the town of Le Roy during the same period:

1814, Levi Beardsley, William Le Roy Bishop, Manley Colton, Paul E. Day, John Gilbert, P. McVane, Abel Noyes, John Richards, Elisha Severance, A. Williams; 1815, Jeremiah Buell, James Ballard, James Campbell, John Deming, Daniel Foster, Timothy Fitch, W. G. Gustin, Harry Holmes, Timothy Hatch, Joseph Keeney, Marshfield Parsons, Joseph Tompkins; 1816, Versal Bannister, Isaac Crocker, Elijah Crocker, Jacob Gallup, Daniel Harris, Timothy Judd, Harry Lathrop, Solomon Root, Deacon Clark Selden, Elliott L. Stanley, Joel White, Parker Weld; 1817, C. Butler, Nathaniel Farnham, E. Hart, Uni Hurlburt, A. Perry; 1818, Samuel Bishop, Silas Jones, Miles P. Lampson, Thomas C. Ladd, Charles Morgan, S. Tiffany, Levi Ward, jr.; 1819, Dr. S. O. Almy, Albert Hill; 1820, S. M. Gates, Daniel Le Barron.

In Alabama:

1814, John Richardson, James Richardson, jr., Hannah Carr, Samuel Sheldon; 1815, William Daniels; 1817, Jonas Kinne, Benjamin Gumaer, Henry Howard; 1819, E. F. Norton; 1821, Robert Harper, James Peter, Joseph Holmes; 1822, James Gardner; 1824, Samuel Whitcomb; 1825, Samuel Basom; 1826, Selah Vosburgh; 1827, Thomas R. Wolcott; 1828, Jesse Lund, Gideon M. Taylor, David Webster, Leonard Webster, Nahum Loring; 1829, Sterling Hotchkiss; 1830, Daniel Thayer, Ryal Ingalsbe, Elijah B. Ingalsbe; 1832, Gideon Howland, Parley V. Ingalsbe; 1834, Elijah and Ebenezer Ingalsbe, Samuel Burr, James Burr, Isaac Duell, N. Baker, jr.; 1835, Jacob Martin, David Martin; 1836, Anson Norton; 1837, James Filkins, George Wight, Abbott Wight.

Numerous settlements were made in Alexander during these years. Among those who located in that town, despite the calamity which had befallen Western New York, were the following, most of whom came in 1815:

General Josiah Newton, Captain Marcellus Fellows, Asahel Warner, Stephen Day, Josiah Goodrich, Wolcott Marsh, Emory Blodgett, Solomon Blodgett, Frederick Balch, Luther Chaddock, Thomas Chaddock, Dennis B. Chaddock, Newcombe Demary, Nathaniel Loomis, Joshua Rix, all of whom came during or just previous to 1815; Noah North, James A. North, and Eben North, sons of Noah North (a pioneer of 1808), Daney Churchill, Cherrick Van De Bogart, Timothy Haskins, James R. Jackman, G. Kelsey, James Lewis, Lyman Brown, Ira Newton, N. Manson, J. G. Tiffany, who came in 1816; Silas Southwell, Jonas Stimars, James Stimars, Ezra W. Osborn, S. C. Spring, David Halsted, 1817; Ebenezer Scoville, Guy Shaw, Philip Cook, 1819; Daniel F. Bowen, S. B. Brainard, Sanford Riddle, C. J. Hawkins, S. B. Smith, 1820; Eliphallet Peck, Horace B. Houghton, Benjamin Simonds, John Simonds, Moses Dickinson, Philo Porter, O. T. Fargo, 1824; Charles Austin, 1825.

Among those who located within the limits of the present town of Bergen during the few years succeeding the war were William P. Munger, William Gorton, Lathrop Farnham, Linus Beecher and Alva Stevens, who established homes there between 1814 and 1816. The temperance society established in town in 1826 had these members: Rev. Josiah Pierson, Rev. Heman Halsey, Deacon Pitman Wilcox, Deacon John Spencer, H. H. Eyarts and Henry D. Gifford. Others who resided in town during this period, some of whom may have come before the war, included Rev. R. Darwin, John T. Bliss, David Faucher, Milton Bird, Thomas Templeton, Daniel Robinson, Levi Ward, Levi Ward, jr., Benjamin Wright, Alexander White, John Gifford, Simon Pierson, Selah Wright, Rev. Allen Hollister, Russell Pierson, Luther C. Pierson, Rev. Elisha Mason.

Most of the settlements in Bethany were made before the war of 1812. Among those who located there after that event or during the last year of the war were the following:

1813, Abner Ashley, S. Bowers, Josiah Churchill, Captain Lodowick Champlin, W. R. Dixon, John Eastland, I. Everest, John Metcalf, Harvey Prindle, John Page, Nathan Rumsey; 1814, Thomas Adgate, Charles Dixon, T. Fay, Alanson D. Lord, Rufus Munger, W. F. Norton; 1815, James Bennett, jr., Charles Brisbee, Richard B. French, John Green, John Lincoln, A. Parsons, J. Saunders, James Stewart, Benjamin Smith; 1816, G. Cottrell, J. Rolfe, Asahel Shepard, James Shepard; 1817, Daniel Hyde, B. Barlow; 1818, David Merritt, Jared S. Lord; 1819, S. Debow, — Gardner; 1824, James Baker; 1825,

Orange Allen, R. R. Brown; 1828, Aaron Bailey; 1829, E. C. Dibble; 1832, Nathaniel Huggins; prior to 1825, Richard Powers, Ira Waite, Matilda Wedge, Samuel Jolles, C. J. Lincoln.

Some of those who settled in Byron were:

1813, Abner Thompson, Andrew Hunter Green, William Shepherd; 1814, John Searis, Ira Newburg, Asa Williams; 1815, Seth C. Langdon, Jason Adams, James Tillotson, Asa Merrill; 1816, Chester Mann, A. Norton, Abner Chase, William Warn, Lyman Warn, Milo Warn; 1817, Joseph Barker, Marcus Barker, Andrew Adams, Jonathan Wright, William Peckham, David Mann, Charles Beswick; 1818, Moses Gilliett, Levi Fish, Calvin Wells; 1819, Harmon Norton, Erastus Norton, W. S. Miller; 1828, Miles G. White; 1818, Rev. Herman Halsey; 1823, Jacob Bushman; 1822, Milton Allen; 1826, Pierpont E. Bull.

In Darien these settlements are recorded:

1813, Harvey Butler, Anson Ackley, Jonathan Hastings, Hiram Hedges, John A. Lathrop, Josiah Lee, William Vickery, Thomas Vickery, John McCollister, Thorp Wildman; 1814, Daniel Marsh, Horace Sloan, William B. Garfield, John Webb, Jonathan Vickery; 1815, Baxter Gilbert, Ezra Clark, A. Hutchinson, Shadrach Harmon, Quartus Lee, D. J. Lee, Obadiah Jenks, Elijah Lamb, Joshua Peters, jr., David Salisbury, Ephraim Sumner; 1816, David Anderson, Colonel Jesse Safford, Benajah Griswold, William Cole, Daniel C. Stoddard, John L. Hoyie, Julius Wildman, John Seaver; 1817, C. Dodge, John W. Brown, Elisha H. Lathrop, Davis Huntley, Hugh Wallis, Noah Winslow; 1818, Elijah Lee, Philo Farnham, Lemuel Stickney, Adna Tiffany, Silas Tiffany; 1819, James Booth, Justus Fales, L. H. Colby, Samuel Harroun, Oliver Harper, Zebulon Jones, Stephen King, Anson Lathrop, Caroline Lathrop, William Shumway, John W. Willett, Benjamin Sloan.

In Elba the following located during this period: Chester Scott about 1817; Nathaniel Ford and Thomas Griffin, 1820; prior to 1822, Washington Gardner, James Fuller, John Wilson, Elisha Buck, Robert Irwin, Abraham Sleeper, James Harris, Richard Shotwell, Isaac Shotwell, Smith Lane, Wanton Aldrich, Israel Hoag, Miles Britton; about 1819, Samuel Laing; and the following, the years of whose coming are unknown, though all were residing in the town in 1820; Lemuel Foster, Mason Turner, George Mills, Charles Woodworth, John Underhill, Erastus Wolcott, Isaac Benedict, Jeremiah Wilford, Mark Turner, Dudley Sawyer, Isaac Higley, Eleazar D. Davis, Ichabod Hinckley

Samuel White, Nehemiah Ingersoll, Martin Wilson, Joseph Jones, Abraham Gifford, Joseph Walter.

Few settlements were made in Oakfield during these years. Aaron Brown came from Chili in 1815, John Underhill and his son, Alfred Underhill, came at the same time. Isaac Stringham and Reuben Norton came about 1818. David C. Reed came in 1825.

Among those who removed to Pavilion were the following:

1813, Aaron Tufts, Ezra Coe, Harry Coe, Isaac Crocker, Francis Ruby; 1814, J. E. Holcomb, Leonard Anson, Elijah Cheney, John Hendee, Elijah Olmsted, W. C. Smead, Marshall Smead, Jesse Snow; 1815, T. Butler, Naomi Davis, Rufus Glass, William Glass, Seth Miles, Darius Howe, James Nobles, John Reed, Elijah Rogers, Seth Smith, James Tompkins, Daniel Ward, Washington Weld, Samuel Webb; 1816, Chester Hannum, Horace Hannum, Eli Carr, Joel Crofoot, Francis Royce, Amos Halbert, Bial Lathrop, Daniel Knowlton; 1817, Horace Bates, Erastus Bailey; 1818, Chauncey Tillotson, John Ward; 1819, Oswald Bond, Carlton Cooley, Albert Hill, Charles Hill; 1820, William Gilmore, George Tubbs; 1822, Jason Duguid, Asa Higgins; 1823, Dr. Warren Fay; 1824, John Doty; 1825, Horace S. Coe, George Murray, Simeon Dutton, Alexander Boyd; 1826, Edward Lauderdale; 1827, Ira Townsend.

The number of settlements in Pembroke during this period was limited. Calvin Cummings came in 1816, Reuben Millett in 1827, Rev. Hugh Wallace in 1816. Other early settlers, the dates of whose arrivals are not known, included Benjamin Wells, Daniel McCracken, George Porter, Henry Porter, Selah Kidder, George Dennison, Burnham Barber.

The records show the names of the following settlers in the town of Stafford:

1813, Merritt King; 1814, Peter Stage; 1815, Eden Foster, Noble Daniels; 1816, Adget Lathrop, David McCracken; 1817, Abel Cross; 1818, Chester Scott; 1819, Joel Philleo, B. Clark, J. J. Reynolds, John S. Blair; 1821, B. Bristol. Beside these the following located on the Craigie tract:

1815, J. Bushnell, D. Biddlecome; 1817, C. Sweetland; 1820, E. Northrup; 1821, D. Laid; 1823, E. Wright; 1824, S. Plant; 1827, E. W. Cobb. Other early inhabitants included families named Lent, Bannister, Coon, Snow, Tomlinson, Tanner, Pratt, Lewis, Beckley, Reynolds, Terry, Drury, Hubbard, Bangs, Kelsey, Ellis, Danolds, Kendall, Judd, Blissh, Stutterd, Hinsdale, Kellogg, Smith and Randall.

The newcomers were for the most part men in rugged health, vigorous intellects, indomitable courage and possessed of the true spirit of enterprise. No prospects of hardships daunted them. Whatever problem confronted them, they uniformly rose superior to the occasion. By reason of their efforts the country was rapidly developed. New mills, new shops, foundries, stores and other forms of industry dotted the country here and there, replacing the half dead community with signs of life and activity on all sides. They built school houses and founded churches. Obstacles, sometimes seemingly insurmountable, were finally overcome by the sturdy and determined inhabitants, and Genesee county took on a new lease of life.

The industrial development during the period between the close of the war of 1812 and the beginning of the war of the Rebellion—four years less than half a century—was gradual, but steady and, best of all, of the most substantial and beneficent character. Batavia experienced greater results than any other section of the country.¹ Second to Batavia came Le Roy.

The development of the village of Le Roy fortunately had not ceased during the war, though of necessity the inhabitants suffered greatly. Even while the war was in progress, in 1812, J. & A. Nobles built a carding factory in the village. Another was in operation during and after the war by a man named Stewart. Brick yards were conducted by Martin O. Coe and Uni Hurlburt. There were several distilleries—for, while corn would not pay for its transportation, the whiskey which could be made from it would. Thomas Tufts was the first to open a distillery. Elisha Stanley soon after built one on Fort Hill. Others were conducted by William Morgan, J. & M. Colton, J. H. Lent, Dickey, Lampson, Merry and Foot. In 1822 Joseph Annin built the largest distilling plant in Western New York at that time, manufacturing proof spirits for the eastern trade.

In 1817 Elijah Warner began the manufacture of potash, which he continued until 1823. Thaddeus Joy and Mr. Sherman also engaged in the same business soon after Mr. Warner opened his ashery. In 1815 or 1816 an oil mill was started by Martin O. Coe. This afterwards became successively the property of L. C. Morgan, Foreman, Starr & Co., I. M. Foreman, and Mr. Rogers. In 1820 James Ballard began the manufacture of hats, which he continued for about a dozen years.

¹ An account of the industrial, commercial, educational, religious and social development of this town appears in the chapter devoted to the history of Batavia.

About the same time A. E. Hutchins and D. Seavey operated a small chair factory.

In 1831 John Tomlinson built a large grist and flour mill two miles southwest of Le Roy village, on the Oatka. Several years after a mill was operated at the same point by Thomas Tufts. In 1822 Jacob Le Roy built a flouring mill about a mile north of the village. In 1869 this property was sold to W. F. Jones, who made wrapping paper there until 1887, when it was destroyed by fire. An early tannery, located on the flats below Tomlinson's mill, was conducted by D. & W. Graves. Samuel Clifflord began the operation of a carding mill in 1833. Thomas Ladd opened a wagon shop in 1818, working there at his trade for about forty years. In 1854 his son, M. A. Ladd, constructed a two-story stone building, in which he continued the business established by his father.

Le Roy was well supplied with taverns in these early days. In 1819 Major James Ganson, eldest son of Captain John Ganson, sr., built the Eagle hotel on Main street, on the site of the original Eagle tavern, which had been previously conducted by "Auntie" Wemple. He also built a tavern on the corner of Main and North streets, which he afterward sold to Mr. Hosmer of Avon. The Globe and Eagle tavern, built in 1816, was first conducted by Rufus Robertson. Mr. Walbridge succeeded to the management in 1827, and after him Elisha Stanley, J. H. Stanley, Lyman Ballard, A. G. Collins and others were proprietors. John Lent also had a tavern on the hill.

The malting industry was inaugurated at Le Roy at an early day, but there is in existence no authentic record regarding it. The flouring mill built by Jacob Le Roy, which has been referred to, was sold by him, upon his removal to New York, to Joshua Lathrop. After various changes the property came into possession of C. F. Prentice and J. D. Cameron in 1866.

So great had been the development of Le Roy, and so progressive was the spirit of its inhabitants, that in 1834 it was decided to ask the Legislature to grant it a charter. This was done on May 5, 1834. By this act incorporating the village, the corporation limits were defined as follows:

All that part of the town of Le Roy, in the county of Genesee, bounded as follows, to wit: Beginning at a point in the centre of the Niagara road, where a road running north by Israel Rathbun's west line intersects the Niagara road; thence along said north road so far that a line running west drawn parallel with the Niagara road

shall intersect the triangular road at George W. Blodgett's north line; thence west on said line to a line running south, drawn parallel to the west side of John Lent's farm; thence south on said line so far as to intersect a line running east parallel to the Niagara road, by the south side of the widow Munn's land; thence east on said line so far as to intersect a line running north, to the place of beginning; thence north to the place of beginning.

The charter further provided as follows:

The first annual meeting . . . shall be holden on the first Monday in June next, at two o'clock in the afternoon, at the house now kept by Theodore Dwight.

At this election Joshua Lathrop, John Lent, Rufus Robertson, Theodore Dwight and Dennis Blakely were chosen trustees. S. M. Gates was elected clerk and Heman J. Redfield treasurer.

With the rapid increase in the business of various kinds transacted in Le Roy came the necessity of better banking facilities, and the merchants and manufacturers of the town decided, in 1838, to establish a bank in that village. This institution was organized as the Genesee County Bank December 8, 1838, with these directors: Israel Rathbun, Miles P. Lampson, John Lent, Elisha Stanley, jr., Samuel Skinner, Isaac N. Stage, Alfred Wilcox, Marshall Smead, Lucius Parks, Noah Starr, James C. Ferris, Warren Fay and John B. Skinner. The first officers of the bank were: Israel Rathbun, president; John Lent, vice-president; Miles P. Lampson, cashier; Samuel Skinner, attorney. From the date of its incorporation to the present time there has been no break in the operation of the bank, though it has been reorganized and renamed on several occasions. In 1865 it was succeeded by the First National Bank of Le Roy, with these directors: Miles P. Lampson, William Lampson, Miles P. Lampson, jr., Benjamin F. Ballard, Randolph Ballard and Miles F. Bixby, who were also its first shareholders. The capital stock of one hundred thousand dollars was increased June 5, 1865, to one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Miles P. Lampson was the first president, William Lampson the first vice-president, and Benjamin F. Ballard the first cashier. Miles P. Lampson died March 27, 1869, having served continuously as an officer of the bank from the date of its organization.

January 3, 1885, the National Bank of Le Roy was authorized to begin business with a capital stock of one hundred thousand dollars, succeeding to the business of the First National Bank. Of this bank the first directors were William Lampson, Miles P. Lampson, jr., Randolph Ballard, John Maloney and Butler Ward, who were also the only

shareholders. The National Bank of Le Roy went out of existence July 1, 1889, and upon the same day its successor, the Bank of Le Roy, a State institution, which still transacts business under that name, began its career. Amid all these changes the original bank and its successors have always occupied the old building on the northeast corner of Main and Bank streets. Miles P. Lampson, jr., died December 14, 1896; William Lampson died February 14, 1897, and Butler Ward, the present chief officer of the bank, assumed the duties of his position February 23, 1897.

In the existing records of the bank there is a hiatus, from August, 1855, to the date of the organization of the First National Bank in 1865. The records show the following officers of the Genesee County Bank from 1838 to 1855:

Presidents.—1838-40, Israel Rathbun; 1841-44, John Lent; 1845-47, Marshall Smead; 1848-49, John Lent; 1850- —, Miles P. Lampson. (It is known, however, that Mr. Lampson remained president as long as the bank existed).

Vice-presidents.—1838-40, John Lent; 1841-42, Marshall Smead; 1843, Rufus H. Smith; 1844-47, James C. Ferris; 1848-50, Elisha Stanley; 1851- —, John Lent.

Cashiers.—1838-49, Miles P. Lampson; 1850-51, H. U. Howard; 1852- —, S. T. Howard. (Mr. Howard served as cashier as late as 1860, and perhaps later).

The officers of the First National Bank of Le Roy were as follows:

Presidents.—1865-68, Miles P. Lampson; 1869-85, William Lampson.

Vice-presidents.—1865-68, William Lampson; 1869-71, Charles Morgan; 1772-77, Elisha Stanley; 1878-82, Randolph Ballard; 1883-85, Miles P. Lampson, jr.

Cashiers.—1865-72, Benjamin F. Ballard; June, 1872, to 1885, Butler Ward.

Assistant Cashiers.—1868, Miles P. Lampson, jr.; 1884-85, Robert L. Taft.

During its brief career the National Bank of Le Roy had these officers, without change:

President, William Lampson; vice-president, Miles P. Lampson, jr.; cashier, Butler Ward; assistant cashier, William C. Donnan.

The Bank of Le Roy has had the following officers:

Presidents.—1889-97, William Lampson; February 23, 1897, to the present time, Butler Ward.

Vice-presidents.—1889-96, Miles P. Lampson; 1897-98, John Maloney.

Cashiers.—1889-97, Butler Ward; 1897-98, William C. Donnan.

Assistant Cashiers.—1889-96, William C. Donnan; 1897-98, Harold B. Ward.

Le Roy's citizens at an early date adopted measures for protection against the ravages of fire. For many years the custom of keeping fire buckets distributed conveniently about the village was in vogue, and many an incipient blaze was thereby quenched before it could make any considerable headway. In 1834 the village authorities purchased a hand engine operated by two hand cranks. A few years later a small brake engine was purchased for the use of the fire company. February 8, 1851, a regular fire department was organized. In the same year the Le Roy Firemen's Benevolent Association was chartered, its membership being limited to active members of the fire department.

Among the enterprises founded in Stafford during these years of commercial and manufacturing development were the Roanoke roller mills, which were built in 1835 by the firm of Lay, Ganson & Co. They were located on the Oatka. In 1887 they became the property of H. C. Duguid & Son.

In 1836 Holland Earl built a flour and grist mill on Tonawanda creek at North Pembroke, which he operated for many years. In later years the mills became known as the Excelsior flouring mills.

In 1817 or 1818 Erastus Bailey and Bial Lathrop built a grist mill on the site which afterward became generally known as Bailey's Mills. A new dam was built in 1828. In 1835 the property was sold to Mr. Bosley, in 1840 to D. W. Olmsted, and in 1843 to Erastus Bailey, the original part owner, who built a stone mill five years later.

In 1840 S. Pierce began the operation of a woolen factory at Stafford which had been built several years before by a man named Northrup. In 1845 it became the property of Knowlton, Rich & Co., and in 1853 was owned by Shaffer & Hardy. It was destroyed by fire in the latter year.

While devoting the main part of their energies to the development of the resources of the county, the establishment of various commercial institutions and manufacturing industries, etc., the inhabitants of Genesee county were not unmindful of the education of the youth¹ in their charge or the fostering and healthful development of the spirit of piety.

¹ See Chapter on Education in Genesee County.

The first church to be organized during the period covered by this chapter was St. James Protestant Episcopal church of Batavia.¹ This society was formally organized at a meeting held in the court house on June 6, 1815.

In the same year a stone house of worship was built by the Baptist congregation in Stafford, nearly half a mile west of the East Transit Line on the road to Batavia. The earliest services of this denomination in Stafford were conducted in 1810 by the Rev. William Green, who preached at the house of Colonel Rumsey. The first regular pastor of this church was the Rev. William Lampson. In 1816 a Christian church was organized by the Rev. Joseph Badger, and was at once consolidated with the Universalist society there. The Rev. H. Thompson was the first pastor, and the house of worship was built in 1833. In 1870 the church became purely Christian. Another society of the same denomination built a church in the eastern part of the town in 1836; but in 1867 the property was sold and the society ceased to exist. In 1821 a Congregational church was organized, under the charge of the Presbytery. For the first four years of its career the Rev. Mr. Huxley acted as pastor. Subsequently a Congregational and Presbyterian union church was formed, but dissatisfaction arose over the occupancy of the building and disorganization resulted.

In 1816 Elder Leonard Anson established the first Baptist church in Pavilion, with fourteen members. For several years meetings were held at various places in the neighborhood, and it was not until 1834 that the society erected a house of worship for its use. The cemetery adjoining this church is one of the oldest in the county, the first interment therein, that of Peter Crosman, having been made in 1812.

Four new churches were formed in the county in 1817. Of these the First Presbyterian church of Pembroke was organized under the direction of the Rev. Hugh Wallis, who acted for several years as general missionary for the Presbyterian church on the Holland Purchase. This church, small in numbers at first, experienced a steady and substantial growth. The Rev. F. B. Reed served as stated supply in 1825. The Rev. L. B. Sullivan became pastor in 1828, and three years later the first house of worship, a frame building with a seating capacity of one hundred, was erected.

St. Mark's Protestant Episcopal church of Le Roy was also organized

¹ A more complete history of the various religious organizations in Batavia will be found in the chapter devoted to "The Village of Batavia."

in 1817, under the direction of Rev. Samuel Johnson. As early as 1803 or 1804 Episcopal services had been held in Le Roy by the Rev. Davenport Phelps, a missionary for Western New York. The number of adherents of this denomination continued to increase until it was finally deemed advisable to establish a parish. The first officers, chosen in 1817, were: Wardens, Timothy Hatch, Hugh Murphy; vestrymen, Abel Noyes, Solomon Root, George A. Tiffany, Ezra Platt, Thaddeus Stanley, Elisha Stanley, Manly Colton and Graham Newell. In 1826, during the rectorship of the Rev. Seth W. Beardsley, a stone church was erected on the site of the present edifice on Church street, on land donated for the purpose by Jacob Le Roy, who also gave one thousand dollars toward defraying the expense of constructing the building. The church was consecrated August 7, 1827, by Bishop Hobart. This house of worship served the parish until 1869, when it was torn down to make way for a new church, the corner stone of which was laid April 24, 1869, under the pastorate of the Rev. J. H. Waterbury. The edifice was formally opened for worship December 22, 1870, but was not consecrated until November 23, 1876, when the Rt. Rev. Arthur Cleveland Coxe, bishop of Western New York, performed that ceremony. The Rev. Dr. T. M. Bishop was serving as rector at the time of the consecration. The rectors of the parish who succeeded the Rev. Mr. Beardsley have been: 1830, J. M. Rogers; 1831, Dr. H. F. Cummings; 1833, Dr. Kendrick Metcalf; 1841, George D. Gillespie; 1846, T. D. Chipman; 1850, George H. McKnight; 1856, R. J. Parvin; 1862, A. M. Wylie; 1864, A. H. Gesner; 1868, J. H. Waterbury; since which time the parish has been served successively by Revs. T. M. Bishop, D. D., L. D. Ferguson, J. H. Weibel, Arthur W. Sloan and Pierre Cushing, the present rector.

The Stafford Christian church, located at Morganville, was organized October 20, 1817, by the Rev. Joseph Badger and Levi Hathaway, with eleven members. The house of worship was built some time prior to 1835. The first pastor was the Rev. Hubbard Thompson. Succeeding him the following have served the society: 1820, Jeremiah Gates; 1829, Daniel Call; 1831, Joseph Badger; 1832, Allen Crocker; 1833, Thomas Fiske; 1835, David Millard; 1836, Ebenezer Adams; 1842-45, R. A. Burgess and A. C. Parker; 1845, Joseph Weeks; 1861, J. Burlingame; 1864, I. C. Tryon; 1868, William G. Wade; 1871, J. Worden; 1873, I. C. Tryon; 1876, P. R. Sellon; 1881, William Case; 1887, I. C. Tryon; 1888, J. B. Clark; 1890, J. H. Carr; 1893, A. J. Wayman; 1895, Aiden Allen, the present pastor.

The Congregational church of Bethany, located at East Bethany, was founded June 17, 1817, by John Bliss, a missionary from Connecticut. Its original membership numbered eleven. For several years this church was without a regular pastor. The first to serve in that capacity was the Rev. Reuben Hard, who located there in 1823. The following year a brick house of worship, costing three thousand dollars, was erected; and in the same year the society abandoned the Congregational form of government and united with the Presbytery of Genesee, since which it has remained a member of the Presbyterian denomination.

Two churches were organized in 1818—the First Baptist church of Le Roy, and the First Congregational church of Byron.

The first Baptist service held in Le Roy was when Elder Peck, a missionary of that church, visited the settlement in 1806 and preached in the school house there. A few months later Elder Bennett, another Baptist preacher, delivered a sermon in the same place. In 1810 Hinds Chamberlain's barn was opened as a temporary house of worship, and Elder Witherell preached a sermon therein. After that several sermons were delivered by the Rev. Donald Mann, the pastor at Caledonia, and Elder Leonard Anson. The number of adherents of this faith continued to increase, and on June 25, 1818, the First Baptist church was formally organized at the school house near Oliver Langworthy's, Rev. E. Vining acting as moderator and Henry Slayton as clerk. Twenty-six persons received the right hand of fellowship. Elder Ames Lampson was selected for the first pastor, and Hinds Chamberlain as deacon. In 1823 the society began the erection of the present church edifice on the eastern part of Main street, which was completed in 1829. Six years later it was removed to Church street, on land purchased of Joshua Lathrop. The church was incorporated as "The First Baptist Society of Le Roy" in May, 1841, with Austin Phelps as president of the board of trustees and P. M. Smith as clerk. In 1858 a parsonage costing nearly two thousand dollars was built on Wolcott street; but this was afterward exchanged for a residence on Church street, which was rebuilt in 1881. Those who have acted as pastors of this church, in the order of their service, are Amos Lampson, E. M. Spencer, David Morris, John Minor, Barach Beckwith, Ely Stone, A. Willey, John Miller, W. I. Cram, Ichabod Clark, William Hutchinson, H. Daniels, A. C. Barrell, D. Moore, O. A. F. Spinning, I. Clark, W. F. Basten, E. P. Brigham, D. D. Reed, A. L. Wilkinson, C. M. Rupe, O. C. Kirkham, and D. L. Martin, who became pastor September 1, 1881. In 1895 the so-

ciety purchased the F. C. Lathrop property on East Main street, which will be held as a site for a future new house of worship.

The First Congregational church of Byron was organized November 20, 1818, at the house of John Thompson of Batavia, by the Rev. Herman Halsey, a minister sent out by the New York Evangelical Society of Young Men. The original members numbered eleven. In 1819 the place of worship was moved to a brick school house about one and one-half miles south of Byron Centre. In 1823 it was fixed at Byron. In 1827 the First Congregational Society of Byron was chartered according to law. The society met in various places in Byron Centre until 1830 when a church edifice was erected and dedicated. In 1824 the society united with the Genesee Conassociation of the Congregational Church, and transferred its relation to the care of the Genesee Presbyterian in 1831. In 1845 it was changed to the Presbyterian form of government, under the pastorate of Rev. John B. Preston. In 1866 the church edifice was extensively repaired at an expense of about \$3,300. In 1893 a beautiful new parsonage was erected, a gift of the Boynton estate. In 1896 the floor of the auditorium was raised and a suite of rooms added below. The following ministers have served the church, now known as the Byron Presbyterian church: Revs. Herman Halsey, 1818; William P. Kendrick, 1826; Lot B. Sullivan, 1828; Lewis Cheeseman, 1830; Herbert A. Reed, 1831; B. B. Gray, 1833; A. Sedgwick, 1837; Eler Childs, 1839; Francis Danforth, 1843; John B. Preston, 1844; J. Partington, 1850; A. O. Wightman, 1855; R. H. Dexter, 1856; N. M. Clute, 1857; John M. Ballou, 1863; T. M. Hodgman, 1866; Edwin Allen, 1873; J. F. McLaury, 1885; J. W. Stitt, 1890.

St. John's Methodist Episcopal church of Batavia¹ was organized in 1819, and became connected with the "New Amsterdam Circuit and Genesee District," but no house of worship was erected until 1823-24.

The three churches organized in the year 1820 were the First Baptist of Bethany, the Freewill Baptist of Byron and the Friends' Society of Elba, now defunct. The first of these, the First Baptist church of Bethany, was founded May 7 of that year with a membership of twenty-six. In 1840 it reported a membership of one hundred and forty, but owing to great changes in the population of the town it has since decreased in members. The original house of worship, built in 1826, is still standing. Those who have served as pastors are: 1820-21, John Blain; 1822-25, John Mudge; 1826-28, Barteimus Brayman; 1829-

¹ A full history of this society will be found in the chapter relating to the village of Batavia.

31, William Gildersleve; 1832-33, Daniel Peck; 1835-36, William Smith; 1836-40, H. R. Stimpson; 1841-42, Henry Shute; 1842-43, R. C. Palmer; 1844-45, Bela Palmer; 1846-47, Hobart Leavenworth; 1847-49, L. W. Olney; 1850-53, A. M. Starkweather; 1853-55, James Mallory; 1856-58, William Buxton; 1860-64, Smith Hulse; 1864-68, Jesse Elliot; 1869-71, F. B. Mace; 1872-74, T. A. Edwards; 1874-76, C. Townsen; 1876-98, J. M. Scarff.

The Freewill Baptist church of Byron, located at North Byron, was organized in 1820 by the Revs. Nathaniel Brown and Harmon Jenkins. The first house of worship was erected in 1833. A Baptist church was established in Byron as early as 1810, but it ceased to exist many years ago. The First M. E. church of that town, founded about 1822, has also been extinct many years.

The Friends' Society organized in Elba in 1820 originally consisted of forty-eight heads of families in that town, besides several others from adjoining towns. Among the leading members at the foundation were Jonathan Ramsdale, Elijah Pond, Abraham Gifford, Ira Lapham, William Cromwell and Joseph Jones. The first house of worship, a log structure erected in 1820, was replaced in 1838 by a stone church. The society has always been in a prosperous condition. Rev. James D. Wood is the present pastor.

The First Presbyterian church of Elba was organized as a Congregational society with sixteen members October 8, 1822. It remained Congregational in form, although for a part of that time under the care of the Presbytery, until November 3, 1866, when it became a duly organized Presbyterian church. The Rev. Solomon Hibbard was the first pastor of the church. The first church, erected in 1822, of wood, was supplanted in 1875 by a commodious structure costing seven thousand dollars. Revs. E. H. Stratton, R. Whiting and G. S. Corwin were early pastors. The present pastor is the Rev. Farley Porter.

The Second Baptist church of Elba was formed September 13, 1822, with sixteen members. Two years later a house of worship was erected. The Rev. John Miner acted as the first pastor of the society. The first church was destroyed by fire in 1837, and not rebuilt until 1849-1850.

St. Philip's Protestant Episcopal church of Stafford dates from the year 1823. As early as February 16 of that year Lucius Smith, Richard Smith and E. Mix¹ of Batavia organized a church under that name.² In February, 1833, a parish was regularly organized at the

¹ Probably Ebenezer Mix.

² No records of this early church are in existence.

village of Stafford and given the name of Trinity parish. The Rev. John P. Robinson was the first rector in charge. The records of the church in the year following show that there were forty communicants. For a few years services were held in the old union stone church. In 1841 the society began the erection of an edifice for its own use, and this was consecrated by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Delancey in 1842 under the name of St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal church. The Rev. George D. Gillespie, afterwards bishop of Western Michigan, was the first rector, and John Warren, sr., and Richard Warren were the first wardens. Those who have served as pastors are: Stephen C. Millet, John P. Calhoun, Milton Ward, Philemon E. Coe, Richard Radley, Rev. Mr. Edson, E. R. Armstrong.

The Presbyterian church of North Bergen was organized November 18, 1823, in the house of Jonah Guthrie, by the Rev. A. Darwin, Josiah Pierson, John T. Bliss and David Fancher. It was first known as the Congregational church of Bergen, Byron and Clarendon, and had twenty-one members when organized. April 11, 1827, it united with the Rochester Presbytery, and D. Fancher, Milton Bird, Thomas Templeton and Daniel Robinson were chosen elders. Milton Bird was the first to be ordained deacon. The Rev. N. Clapp, the first pastor, was ordained and installed February 25, 1827. April 2, 1829, the society was named after the post-office of that time—Lyme—but in 1840, when the name of the post-office was changed to North Bergen, the name of the church was likewise changed. In 1833 a commodious frame edifice was constructed. This has been remodeled several times. In 1892 a parsonage was built. The following have served as pastors of the society, in the order given: Rev. Mr. Clapp, ordained and installed February 5, 1829; Revs. Colton Meade, Isaac Bliss, John Walker, Lemuel Clark, L. Cheeseman, Bela Fancher, Hiram Gregg, N. M. Clute, Albert Bigelow, L. W. Billington, O. H. Barnard, L. W. Billington, E. W. Brown, C. W. Remington, John H. Perkins, Shubal Carver, L. C. Butler, Mr. Boon, A. R. Vosburg, and Rev. J. C. Long, the present pastor.

The Freewill Baptist church of Alabama was organized in 1824 through the instrumentality of Elder Samuel Whitcomb, who was not only its first pastor, serving for many years, but also for a long period the only preacher in the town of Alabama.

A Baptist mission church was organized on the Tonawanda Indian Reservation in 1825 and placed in charge of the Rev. Mr. Bingham.

Several years later the society built a brick church, which is still in use. The membership has never been very large.

In 1826 Zion Protestant Episcopal church of Bethany was founded. The corner-stone of the house of worship was laid July 4 of that year under the direction of the Masonic fraternity, on which occasion an oration was delivered by William Mitchell, afterwards first judge of the Court of Common Pleas. The early records of this church are not in existence.

The First Congregational church of Darien, which ceased to exist in 1860, was organized May 9, 1823, at Darien Centre, with the Rev. Hugh Wallace as pastor and twelve members. A wooden church was built in 1839. Among those who served as pastors were the Revs. T. Baldwin and L. A. Skinner.

The Free Baptist church of Wheatfield, in the town of Alabama, was organized in 1826 and reorganized in 1837. Joseph Holmes and Holland Fuller were the first deacons. The present church building was built in 1850. The pastors of the church, in the order of their service, have been: Revs. H. Gilman, H. Blackmer, Horace Perry, E. P. Talman, R. Martin, — Smith, L. Johnson, W. Peck, C. H. Hoag, S. R. Evans. Mr. Evans, the last resident pastor, left his charge in 1890.

A society known as the Batavia and Pembroke Baptist church was established at East Pembroke February 18, 1826, by Daniel McCracken, Benjamin Wells, Chauncey Wolcott, William Upton, Mary A. McCracken, Lydia Wolcott and Sally Harrington. The Rev. Amos Lampson was chosen as the first pastor. The first church, a frame building built in 1840, was superseded in 1867 by a fine brick edifice costing seven thousand dollars.

The Alexander M. E. church was organized in 1827. The earlier records are not in existence. The church now standing is the first one built by the society. The various pastors since 1851, as far as shown by the records, have been: 1851, M. Scott; 1853, E. R. Keyes; 1855-57, M. W. Riply; 1861, D. B. Worthington; 1862-63, J. N. Simpkins; 1864, R. D. Miller; 1865, P. Woodworth; 1866, E. W. Hill; 1867, G. De La Matyr; 1868, M. W. Riply, 1870-71, T. E. Bell; 1872, F. W. Conable; 1873-74, T. W. Chandler; 1875, R. L. Waite; 1876, H. J. Owens, R. L. Waite, J. McEwen; 1878, T. H. Perkins and R. L. Waite; 1879-80, T. H. Perkins; 1882-84, C. S. Daly; 1885, J. McEwen; 1887-88, W. L. Moore; 1889, F. E. King; 1890-94, H. A. Slingerland; 1895, A. B. Taylor; 1896, William Magovern; 1897-98, A. H. Mason.

The Methodist Episcopal church of Le Roy was not organized until September, 1828, though preaching service had been held there for several years and a class had been organized as early as 1823, composed of Alfred Morehouse and his wife, Orange Scott and his wife, Asenath Judd, John Hay, Julia Herrick, I. Herrick and his wife, Alanson Stanley, Mrs. Stanley and Henry Goodenow. The Rev. Micah Seager was the first regular pastor of the society. For a year services were held every two weeks in the school house east of the village. In 1829 a small brick church was built at a cost of \$950 and dedicated by Bishop Roberts. In 1884 this church was ruined by fire, and plans for a new building were at once made. The corner-stone of the handsome new edifice on Trigon Park, East Main street, was laid May 20, 1885, by the Rev. J. E. Bills, D. D., presiding elder of the Genesee district of the Genesee conference, and the structure was dedicated September 17, 1886. It is of grey sandstone and cost \$26,000. Those who have served as pastors of this church, and the years of their appointment, are: 1823, Micah Seager; 1824, J. Hustes; 1825, C. V. Adgate; 1827, W. Hoag; 1829, S. Madison; 1830, R. Parker; 1831, Micah Seager; 1832, S. Madison; 1833, R. L. Waite; 1834, L. B. Castle; 1835, I. Chamberlyne; 1836, G. Osband; 1837-38, J. Latimer; 1839-40, P. E. Brown; 1841, D. D. Buck; 1842, M. Seager; 1843, P. Woodworth; 1844-45, A. Steele; 1846-47, C. C. Houghton; 1848-49, R. L. Waite; 1850, H. R. Smith; 1851-52, J. M. Fuller; 1853-54, A. P. Ripley; 1855, S. C. Clark; 1856-57, J. McEwen; 1858, G. De La Matyr; 1859-60, P. R. Stover; 1861-62, E. A. Rice; 1863, C. Shelling; 1864-66, K. D. Nettleton; 1867-69, P. R. Stover; 1870-71, W. S. Tuttle; 1872, J. Hartwell; 1873, J. Morrow; 1874-75, J. B. Wentworth; 1876, R. F. Kay; 1877-78, R. C. Brownlee; 1879, K. P. Jervis; 1880-82, M. C. Dean; 1883-85, G. H. Dryer; 1886-89, W. C. Wilbor; 1889-90, I. M. Dalby; 1891-92, J. A. Smith; 1893-98, G. M. Harris; from October 1898, Frederick S. Parkhurst, Ph. D.

The Second Congregational church of Le Roy and Bergen, now known as the "Presbyterian Society of Stone Church," is the offshoot of the First Congregational church of Bergen, and was founded March 18, 1828, with S. Dibble and J. Ward as deacons and Russell Pierson, David Byam and Luther C. Pierson as assistants. The original "Stone church" was begun September 24, 1828. In 1864 a frame edifice was built upon the site of the first church and was dedicated the following year. October 28, 1828, the Rev. Elisha Mason became the first pas-

tor of the society. The society changed from the Congregational to the Presbyterian form of government in 1882.

The Methodist society was organized in Bethany in 1820 by Dr. Jonathan K. Barlow, the pioneer physician in that town, but its existence was brief. A Bethany Union church was formed in 1828 and a second M. E. society in 1832, but all are now extinct.

The second Presbyterian church in Bethany was organized October 20, 1829, by Messrs. Whiting, Bliss, Watts and a few other persons. The first pastor was the Rev. W. Whiting. In 1839 the society erected a house of worship, which since that time has been repaired several times.

The Universalist church of Le Roy was organized in 1831, though services had been held there by preachers of that denomination as early as 1812. Among the early ministers after the formation of the society were Tomlinson, Knapp, Kelsey, Peck, Brayton, and others. The society held its meetings in the old "Round House." In 1858 the Rev. Charles Cravens was chosen pastor, and the society was reorganized. The "Round House" was purchased in 1859 and razed to the ground. In its place was erected the present church edifice, costing at that time about \$8,000. After a severe and protracted struggle the society paid for the building, and it remains to this day unincumbered. Mr. Cravens, after a long and successful pastorate, retired, and was followed by Rev. F. M. Hicks. He was succeeded by the Revs. Charles Datton, G. W. Powell, E. W. Fuller, M. L. Hewitt, H. B. Howell, M. D. Shumway, William Knott, C. L. Haskell, J. A. Copeland and E. L. Conklin, in the order named.

The First Methodist Episcopal church of Bergen was organized April 5, 1831. The records of the society show that Rev. Reeder Smith founded a society prior to this date, which was called the "First Society of the Methodist Episcopal church of Bergen." In 1838 an edifice costing \$1,000 was erected. In 1853 the society removed to the present site, purchased the former edifice, and beautified and enlarged it at a cost of over \$2,000. In 1873 the society was a part of the Churchville circuit, but under the labors of Rev. T. E. Bell, the membership in that year swelled to one hundred and eighteen, and sixteen probationers, and a separate existence was created. In 1876 a parsonage was erected at a cost of \$1,200, and August 3, 1882, the present elegant brick edifice, built in Gothic style, was dedicated, with Rev. J. B. Countryman, pastor. In 1898 a chapel was built at a cost of \$1,200.

The records show the following to have served as pastors. The list is not complete, but no further data is in existence. 1831, Reeder Smith; 1832-33, Benajah Williams and Preston R. Parker; 1836, G. Taylor and Salem Judd; 1839, Gideon Laning and David Nutten; 1840, N. Fellows, G. Taylor and E. O. Hall; 1841-44, Daniel Anderson; 1845, H. Ryan Smith; —, Amos Smith; 1852-53, Micah Seager, John Fuller; 1854, John B. Lanckton; 1855-56, Sheldon H. Baker; 1857, Richard Cooley; 1858, James M. Fuller; 1859, John McEwen; 1860-61, Sumner C. Smith; 1862-63, Benjamin F. McNeal; 1864, John Kennard; 1865, Chauncey S. Baker; 1866-67, Henry W. Annis; 1868, J. N. Simpkins; 1869-70, N. Jones; 1871, E. S. Furman; 1872, W. L. Warner; 1873, Thomas E. Bell; 1874, J. L. Forster; 1875-78, H. C. Woods; October, 1878, to October, 1879, T. C. Hitchcock; 1879-82, J. B. Countryman; 1882-85, Thomas Cardus; 1885-88, T. T. Rowe; 1888-91, J. A. Smith; 1891-94, C. G. Stevens; 1894 to the present time, John R. Adams.

The First Universalist society of Pavilion was organized October 10, 1831, by James Sprague and Elijah Olmsted, with thirty-eight members. The year following a house of worship was erected. The first pastor was the Rev. L. L. Sadler. Others who have acted as pastors named in the order of their service have been the Revs. Alfred Peck, A. Kelsey, J. Davy, J. S. Brown, N. M. Fisk, Orville Brayton, Charles Cravens, Charles Dutton and M. D. Shumway.

The Oakfield and Alabama Baptist church at Great Valley was also one of the four churches organized in Genesee county in 1831. November 25, 1829, a meeting was called at the house of Mrs. Betsey Barker at Oakfield Five Corners. Brother Shears and wife, Brother Calkins, and Sisters Dickinson and Barker were constituted a branch of the Baptist Church at Elba. December 27, 1831, a council was convened at Shears school-house one mile east of South Alabama, and this branch became the church of Oakfield with twenty-five members. During the first ten years the society had eight pastors—Rev. Messrs. Gould, Brown, Hall, Griswold, Fuller, Blood, Fairechild and Southworth. January 24, 1839, the society voted to unite with the Alabama church and build a house of worship. This was completed in 1840, and has been repaired three times—in 1855, 1870 and 1883. The pastors since 1840 have been as follows, named in the order of their service: Revs. A. Warren, James Mallory, — Reed, R. Baker, R. D. Pierce, R. C. Palmer, Eli Stone, W. D. Corbin, L. Atwater, L. L. Gage, B.

F. Mace, Charles Berry, J. M. Derby, William Garnet, J. M. Coley, B. F. Mace, Marion Forbes, M. W. Hart, P. W. Cranell, W. H. Holt, J. C. Newman, G. F. Love, A. A. Shaw, D. E. Burt.

Asbury M. E. church of Pavilion was built at Union Corners in 1832, chiefly through the efforts of the Rev. Hiram May, who was then preaching on that circuit. The society disbanded in 1876. The old church was occupied for a time by the Free Methodists, but was finally abandoned. The Union church was built at Pavilion Centre at an early day, and was used by all denominations. It subsequently was converted into a public hall.

The Alabama Baptist church was organized in 1832 by Elijah Ingalsbe, Mr. Bennant and wife, Charles P. Brown and wife, Adna Ingalsbe and wife and others. Elder Hall was the first pastor, Mr. Bennant and Adna Ingalsbe the first deacons and Charles P. Brower the first clerk. The church united with the Niagara Association in 1833. The next year one of the greatest revivals in the history of the county occurred. Seventy persons were baptized in one day, three ministers being in the water together and baptizing at the same time. Soon after this Hiram K. Stinson became pastor and baptized eighty-one more, making the total of one hundred and fifty-one baptisms for that associational year. Mr. Stinson was ordained to the ministry in this town. In 1880 the house of worship was thoroughly repaired, making it practically a new building. Four years later a parsonage was built. Since Mr. Stinson's pastorate the following have served the society: 1836, Augustus Warren; 1840, J. Packer; 1842, Alexander Mede; 1845, E. J. Corey; 1846, I. A. Whitney; 1848, J. Packer; 1850, C. Clutz; 1854, Augustus Warren; 1876, — Mace; 1877, L. S. Stowell; 1879, — Fowler; 1882, D. J. Ellison (supply); 1885, H. H. Thomas; 1886, J. B. Lemon; 1888, I. Child; 1890, O. N. Fletcher (supply); 1892, F. Redfern; 1894, G. R. Schlanck; 1896, J. S. Nasmith.

The year 1833 witnessed the establishment of no less than five church organizations in Genesee county. These were the Universalist church in Alexander, an M. E. church in Darien, a Methodist Protestant church in Elba, a Presbyterian church in Oakfield, and an Episcopal church in Stafford.

The First Universalist church of Alexander built and dedicated a frame house of worship in June, 1833, the year of the organization of the society. The first trustees of the society were Colonel Nelson,

Capt. Royal Moulton and Joseph Rix. The pastors of the church and the years of the beginning of their pastorates follow:

1833, J. S. Flagler; 1839, Samuel Goff; 1842, B. B. Bunker; 1845, W. B. Cook; 1848, E. W. Locke; 1850, William McNeal; 1852, C. F. Dodge; 1858, T. J. Whitcome; 1862, C. C. Cravens; 1871, G. W. Powell; 1874, B. Hunt; 1876, George Adams; 1878, C. C. Richardson; 1881, M. D. Shumway; 1884, H. W. Hand; 1889, H. W. Carr; 1891, T. E. Potterton; 1893, C. R. East; 1893, Miss Frankie Cook.

The first Methodist Episcopal church of Darien was organized March 18, 1833. The society had but a brief existence, and the records cannot be found. The present M. E. church in that town was organized in 1841 by Rev. J. W. Vaughn with fifty-three members. The present church building was erected in 1848. Services at Darien Centre were held until 1871 in the Congregational church, when through the efforts of the pastor, Rev. E. S. Furman, aided by Jacob Nichols of Darien Centre, the present church building was erected.

The names of the pastors in the order of their service are: Revs. J. W. Vaughn, 1841; H. M. Ripley, 1842-43; A. Herrick, 1844-45; P. Woodworth, 1846; P. Roberts, 1847; K. D. Nettleton, 1848; J. W. Vaughn, 1849-51; J. Hagar, 1852; J. Torrey, 1853; J. N. Simpkins, 1854; H. Butlin, 1855-56; J. R. Wooley, 1857-58; A. P. Ripley, 1859-60; J. McClelland, 1861-62; D. D. Cook, 1863-64; C. Eddy, 1865-66; A. Plumley, 1867-68; C. S. Baker, 1869-71; E. S. Furman, 1872-74; W. B. Cliff, 1875-77; R. F. Kay, 1878-79; J. B. Peck, 1880-81; L. E. Rockwell, 1882-83; W. S. Tuttle, 1884; W. Magovern, 1885; J. Criswell, 1886; H. A. Slingerland, 1887-88; G. A. Bond, 1889; I. Harris, 1890-92; E. W. Pasko, 1893-95; E. W. Shrigley, 1896; L. J. Muchmore, 1897-98.

The first Methodist Protestant church of Elba was organized with twenty-five members in 1833 by the Rev. Isaac Fister. The following year a church edifice was constructed. This was remodeled and enlarged in 1878. This property was originally deeded by Asa Babcock and wife to a board of trustees consisting of Eden Foster, James Fuller, Loring Barr, Martin Scofield and Jeremiah Wilcox. Among those who have served as pastors are Isaac Fister, E. A. Wheat, D. S. Skillman, O. P. Wildey and B. Poste, who was appointed to the charge in 1898.

The Rev. C. Fitch established the Oakfield Presbyterian church December 10, 1833, with seven members. The first church edifice, a frame building, still in use, was not erected until 1843. The dedicatory sermon was preached by the Rev. William C. Wisner, D. D. The

Rev. Ebenezer H. Stratton, the first pastor, assumed his relations with the society in 1834.

The Episcopal church of Stafford, organized in 1833, is the successor of the first Episcopal church in that town—St. Philip's—established in 1823. Its history is found in preceding pages.

The First Baptist church of Batavia dates from July 8, 1834, though organization was not perfected until November 9, 1837.¹

The First Methodist Episcopal church of Pavilion was established in connection with one at Moscow, N. Y., and one at Covington, and moved from Covington to Pavilion in 1840. The house of worship was erected in the latter year.

The Methodist Episcopal church at Roanoke was founded as a Union church in 1840, with about fifty members and the Rev. Daniel Burke as pastor. In 1843 a house of worship costing fifteen hundred dollars was built.

In the interval covered by this chapter numerous changes took place throughout the county at large, in addition to those noted in the various towns.

In 1818 and 1819 a strong effort was made by the inhabitants of the southern part of the county to secure the removal of the county seat to Attica. During the same time a movement to divide the county was also inaugurated. It being apparent to all at this period that the old court house, erected in 1802 and 1803, was inadequate and inconvenient for the purposes for which it was intended, Mr. Ellicott, determined to save the county seat to Batavia, addressed a letter to the judges of the county courts and the board of supervisors of the county recommending the erection of a new court house. He also offered, as the representative of the Holland Land Company, to convey to the supervisors, for the comparatively small sum of three thousand dollars, the triangular piece of land bounded by Ellicott, Main and Court streets; also a strip of land one hundred feet wide, located about midway between Main and Ellicott streets and extending from a point on what is now Clark place, back of the store occupied by M. H. Bierce; also a strip about thirty-five feet in width extending from Main street to the other strip mentioned, the last-named piece of land being known on the map of the village as lot No. 81. The offer of Mr. Ellicott was accepted, and a few years afterward a new jail was completed.² About the same

¹ For a history of this church see the chapter devoted to the Village of Batavia.

² This is the building now used as the headquarters of the hook and ladder company.

time a county clerk's office was erected in the northeast corner of the triangle. Both were built of brick.¹

The Genesee County Bible Society was organized July 14, 1818. Rev. Calvin Colton, then pastor of the church of Le Roy, and afterwards distinguished as the author of "Life and Times of Henry Clay," and other works, was corresponding secretary, which office he continued to fill for several years. Colonel Martin O. Coe of Le Roy was chosen the first president, Deacon Hinds Chamberlain and Samuel Granis, vice-presidents; Seth M. Gates, recording secretary, and Colonel S. M. Gates, treasurer. The society was organized two years after the American Bible Society was founded. As the records of the society from 1818 to 1833 have been lost, but few items of its early history can be furnished. Theodore F. Talbot of Batavia was president in 1824, Isaac Wilson of Middlebury in 1826, William Seaver of Batavia in 1828 and 1829, and Gaius B. Rich of Attica in 1830. In 1833 the society was reorganized and a constitution adopted. Colonel Martin O. Coe of Le Roy was chosen president and was re-elected to that office for several successive years. The records furnish no data of any meeting from 1834 to 1839. In 1839 Colonel Coe was again elected president, continuing in that office for several years. In 1841 the county of Genesee was divided, and the society has operated since that year within the present bounds of Genesee county. Since 1840 these persons have served as president of the society:

1840, P. L. Tracy; 1851, J. E. Tompkins; 1853, P. L. Tracy; 1864, John Fisher; 1867, A. J. Bartow; 1872, John Fisher; 1873, A. D. Lord; 1875, R. L. Selden; 1876, A. D. Wilbur; 1881, William Swan; 1883, John W. Sanborn; 1884, William W. Totherob; 1888, A. D. Draper; 1891, W. L. Lloyd; 1892, J. H. Durkee; 1895, Thomas Cardus.

One of the most remarkable trials ever occurring in any court in Genesee county, and in many respects one of the most peculiar on record in any court, took place in the court house at Batavia in July, 1822. A man named Farnsworth was arrested and committed to jail on the charge of having forged "United States land warrants," and a special session of the United States District Court was ordered to be held for the trial of the case against him. The court was convened (by what authority is unknown) in July. Hon. Roger Skinner presided as United States district judge, and Jacob Sutherland, afterward one of

¹ The clerk's office was used as such until the present court house was built, in 1843, when the clerk's office was removed to the basement of the same. The office remained there until the construction of the present county clerk's and surrogate's office in 1874.

the judges of the Supreme Court of New York State, acted as United States district attorney.

The grand jury which had investigated the charges against Farnsworth was composed of men of intelligence, some of whom were quite prominent in the community. After due deliberation they presented a true bill, and the accused was immediately arraigned for trial. Public interest in the case was intense, and the sentiment of the populace was almost unanimously against the accused. People came from remote sections to hear the proceedings, which were of an unparalleled character.

On both sides able counsel was employed. District Attorney Sutherland was considered learned in the law and a man of great sagacity. General Ethan B. Allen, who conducted the defense, was a lawyer of considerable prominence and enjoyed a wide reputation as an orator. Nevertheless subsequent events proved that the presiding judge and the prosecuting attorney knew a little more law than that laid down on the statute books. The trial was a long one. The judge charged the jury adversely to the interests of the prisoner, and the intelligent jurors soon returned with a verdict of guilty. The only penalty known to the court for such an atrocious offense as that of which the accused had been convicted was death, and Farnsworth accordingly was sentenced to be hanged on the gallows on September 20 following.

Farnsworth's attorney, satisfied that the verdict was an unjust one, at once sent to President Monroe a petition for a pardon or commutation of the death sentence, but the grounds on which he based his request are not known. Few persons believed that the president would overturn the decision of the august and learned court, and the inhabitants prepared to convert September 20 into a gala day. Little sympathy was expressed for the culprit who had violated one of the most sacred of the federal laws, and thousands of persons from far and near flocked to the village to witness the execution of the death penalty.

Much to the surprise and chagrin of the assembled witnesses a message from the chief magistrate of the nation was received just as the final preparations for the hanging were being conducted, and the local authorities were compelled to announce to the disappointed throng that the execution had been suspended for six months, during which time the merits of the case were to be investigated. To take the edge off the keen disappointment of those who had assembled to witness the hanging, it is said that the turnkey, without the knowledge and consent

of the sheriff, took Farnsworth from his cell, seated him on a platform at the north end of the old court house, which at that time was hidden from public view by a high board fence, and admitted a large number of visitors into the jail yard to behold the monster who, temporarily at least, had escaped from the gallows. Each visitor, however, was required to pay a shilling as an admission fee.

The farcial character of the whole proceedings is illustrated in the subsequent events. President Monroe and his legal advisers made a thorough examination of the case, with the result that it was ascertained that Farnsworth had violated no law of the United States, and that his arrest, trial and conviction were without legal authority! The accused was, therefore, pardoned and discharged from custody.

A most extraordinary event, and one which temporarily disrupted the order of Free and Accepted Masons in the United States, prompted the organization of a political party which had for its aim the annihilation of that great and powerful secret order and threatened to involve the country in civil war, transpired partly within the limits of Genesee county in 1826. The details of the transaction are too generally known to need more than a brief description here. The event is known in history as the "Morgan affair."

William Morgan, then residing in the village of Batavia, was arrested and conveyed to Canandaigua on a criminal warrant issued by a magistrate of the latter place, the charge against him being the larceny of certain articles of small value. He was found innocent of that charge and acquitted, but was immediately rearrested for a debt of about two dollars and again thrown into jail. That evening he was discharged from jail, but was abducted and taken in a closed carriage from Canandaigua by way of Rochester and Lewiston to Fort Niagara. From this point no absolute evidence as to what disposition was made of him was ever obtained, though it was the popular belief that he was killed for the purpose of preventing him from divulging the secrets of Free Masonry.

Prior to his arrest members of the Masonic fraternity learned that Morgan, in connection with David C. Miller, was planning to issue a publication disclosing the unwritten secrets of Masonry. Consequently his sudden and mysterious disappearance and reported violent death at the hands of members of that powerful order created a tremendous sensation, not only in Western New York, but throughout the entire country; and this feeling resulted, first, in a lengthy and vigorous in-

vestigation which resulted in satisfying the majority of the public that Morgan had met his death at the hands of conspirators among certain members of the fraternity whose secrets he was about to expose, and second, in the formation of a strong Anti-Masonic political party whose slogan was "Death to Masonry!" The most commonly accepted belief as to the fate of the missing man was that he had been drowned either in Lake Ontario or the Niagara river near its mouth. A prolonged search for his remains was made, but no body that could be positively identified as that of the missing man was found.

In October of the following year, about eleven months after Morgan's disappearance, a dead body was found on the Lake Ontario beach near the mouth of Oak Orchard creek. An inquest was held but no one recognized the body. A verdict of accidental drowning was rendered and the body was buried, but the clothes found upon it were preserved. Soon afterward the sensational story that this body was that of Morgan spread, creating intense excitement. Committees from Batavia and Rochester were sent to disinter and examine the body, and they reported, after a most critical investigation, that the remains were not those of Morgan.

This report did not satisfy a certain class who had been making political capital out of the lamentable tragedy, and the body was again disinterred and brought to Batavia, where a spectacular parade was held and the body declared to be that of the missing man. Mr. Morgan's widow (taking it for granted that the man was dead at this time) was the chief mourner in the funeral procession. The body was buried in the village cemetery.

Several weeks before these gruesome scenes were enacted, a man named Timothy Monroe was drowned at the mouth of the Niagara river, and from the description of the body found at the mouth of Oak Orchard creek it was believed that it might be that of Monroe. His widow, then residing near Toronto, was notified of the finding of the body, and her description of the clothing he wore when last seen alive corresponded so exactly with that of the clothing taken from the mooted body that unprejudiced people everywhere believed that the body interred at Batavia as that of Morgan in reality was that of Timothy Monroe. The result of this disclosure was the holding of another inquest at Batavia, when, after an exhaustive investigation, the coroner's jury determined that the body in question was that of Monroe.¹

¹ The statements contained above are substantially those made by William Seaver of Batavia, an eye witness to some of the deplorable events described, in his history of Batavia.

Another account of the "Morgan affair" contains statements of interest that do not appear in the story as told in the foregoing. The following account appears in "Historical Collections of the State of New York," written by John W. Barber and Henry Howe and published in 1841, and is a synopsis of the official report of Mr. Whittlesey and others at the United States Anti-Masonic convention held in Philadelphia, September 11, 1830:

Morgan, it appears, was born in 1774 in Culpepper county, Va. His occupation was originally that of a bricklayer and stone mason. He removed from Virginia in 1821, and went to York, U. C.; from thence he removed to Rochester. From various misfortunes, he became quite reduced in circumstances, and in the summer of 1826 he resided in the village of Batavia. While here, he became connected with D. C. Miller, a printer, for the purpose of publishing a work disclosing masonic obligations, secret signs, &c. Morgan, it appears, was a royal arch mason; and when the fact became known that he was preparing a work to reveal the secrets of masonry, many of the masonic fraternity became much excited, and appeared determined to put an end to his disclosures. For this purpose, his character was assailed in the public prints. In July, 1826, Morgan was arrested on a civil suit at Batavia, and gave bail; he was afterward arrested and hurried to jail, without time being given him to procure bail, and search was made at his lodgings for his papers on some pretended process, the sheriff in the meantime absenting himself. An attempt was afterward made to burn down Miller's printing office, where "Morgan's Book" was printing.

On Sunday, Sept. 10th, application was made to J. Chipman, Esq., a magistrate of Canandaigua, for a warrant to apprehend Morgan for stealing a shirt and cravat, which it appeared afterward he had only borrowed. The warrant being issued, the constable at Canandaigua, attended by five other persons from that place, immediately set out for Batavia, where they arrived in the evening. Early the next morning (Monday), Morgan was arrested and taken to the public house where the party had slept; an extra stage-coach was procured, and the party left Batavia for Canandaigua, with Morgan in their custody. Miller attempted to procure the release of Morgan just as the carriage was starting, but he was pushed aside, and the driver was urged to drive fast till he should get out of the county. Having arrived in Canandaigua, Morgan in the evening was taken before the magistrate who had issued the warrant, and was by him examined and discharged. One of the party immediately applied to the same magistrate for a warrant against Morgan for a debt of about \$2, which he said had been assigned to him by a tavern keeper. Judgment was entered against Morgan for \$2.69, debt and costs, and an execution immediately issued. Morgan took off his coat and offered it to the constable to levy upon for the debt. The constable declined receiving it, and Morgan was committed to the Canandaigua jail the same evening, where he remained until the evening of the next day.

On the 12th of Sept., about 9 o'clock in the evening, the wife of the jailer, at the request of the plaintiff in the execution, consented to let Morgan out of the prison. As he was leaving the jail steps, he was violently seized by two persons; he struggled and cried "murder," a number of times. Two other persons now came up, one

of whom stopped Morgan's outcry by thrusting a handkerchief, or something similar, into his mouth. At a signal given by one of the party, a two-horse carriage now drove up; two of the party thrust Morgan into the carriage, and then got in themselves. This carriage arrived in Rochester about day-dawn the next morning. Another carriage was procured, and relays of horses were obtained. When the party arrived at New Fane, about 3 miles from Lockport, they sent to the sheriff of Niagara county, to assist them in getting Morgan into Canada. The sheriff accordingly left Lockport, attended the party, and assisted them in procuring horses, &c. They arrived at Lewiston about midnight; here another carriage was procured, and the party was driven to the burying ground near Fort Niagara. Here they left the carriage and proceeded with Morgan in their custody to the ferry, and crossed over to the Canada side. After conferring with a number of persons in Niagara village, Morgan was brought back, as arrangements had not been completed for his reception. This event it appears had been anticipated. Morgan was taken to the magazine of Fort Niagara, and locked in before day-dawn, on the morning of the 14th of September.

On the day that Morgan was put into the magazine, a royal arch chapter was installed at Lewiston, which event called together a considerable assemblage of Masons from the vicinity. In the evening, 20 or 30 persons came to the fort from Lewiston. About midnight, 7 persons, stated to be royal arch masons, held a consultation on the plain near the graveyard, as to the manner in which Morgan should be disposed of. The prevailing opinion among them appeared to be, that Morgan had forfeited his life for a breach of his masonic obligations, and that they ought to see the penalty executed by drowning him in the river; some of the company discovering a reluctance to go to such lengths, the project was abandoned at that time. On the night of the 16th, a similar consultation was held between four persons, but nothing was decided on. As to the disposition of Morgan, after the evening of the 14th of September, nothing has yet been known judicially, but circumstances are strong, to induce the belief that he was put to death on the night of the 19th of Sept. 1826, by being cast into the depths of Niagara river.

Recent investigation into the case seems to prove that Morgan was never made a Mason. By some means he obtained enough knowledge of the craft to induce a Mr. Warren of Batavia, a Mason in good standing, to believe that he had joined the order in Canada. Mr. Warren vouched for him, and he gained admission to the lodge in Batavia. In 1826 a charter was secured for a chapter in Batavia. On account of his dissolute habits Morgan was refused membership, and this caused him to become furious in his opposition to Masonry. The only lawful degree that he ever received was in the Royal Arch, at Le Roy, May 31, 1825, after the deceit practiced upon Mr. Warren, who was his employer. But that did not make him a member of the craft.

As soon as the chapter rejected his application for admission he began his crusade against the order. His colleagues were David C. Mil-

ler, editor of the Batavia Advocate, and his three partners. Miller had received the degree of Entered Apprentice; but further advancement was denied him, and he, too, was bitter against the order.

An interesting, and now believed by many to be a trustworthy account of Morgan's disappearance, is thus given by Robert Morris, a Masonic writer of high repute:

In September, 1826, Morgan was on the jail limits on judgments for debts. The limits were a mile square, with the jail for the centre. John Whitney and Morgan met in Donald's tavern and set down to supper together. In answer to Whitney's inquiries Morgan said he was in a bad fix; that he had not a friend but his wife, and she ought not to be on account of his treatment of her. She had a baby only three weeks old and cried continually, fearing that they were going to starve. He was out of work; the Masons made him no more donations and threatened to kill him; he said he had sold himself to Miller, who had promised him half a million dollars; he never had more than a shilling at a time, and that with abuse.

"I am authorized," said Whitney, "to give you relief. I will give you fifty dollars in cash with which to buy yourself suitable clothes and help your family in its present need if you will go to Canada and settle there. When you are located in Canada you shall have five hundred dollars, and your family shall be sent to you. I pledge you that they shall be provided for until they rejoin you."

Morgan quickly accepted the offer and consented to submit to a legal process for his removal for trial to Canandaigua on the charge of having stolen a shirt and necktie from the landlord there. This charge was not pressed and Morgan, following out a preconceived plan, went to Canada, escorted to Fort Niagara by six men whose names are well known. He was rowed across the river and received on the Canada side by two Masons who were in the arrangement. Morgan was paid his five hundred dollars and went away quite happy. Among those who were with the party that saw Morgan over the border was Colonel King. He was very conscientious about the matter and insisted upon knowing the full circumstances. In answer to the queries which his persistency brought out, Morgan made the following statement: "That he had contracted with Miller and others to write an *expose* of Masonry; that he had never been a Mason in any lodge, but had received the Royal Arch degree in a regular manner and felt bound by that obligation, and never intended to reveal the secrets of that degree; that he had been treated kindly by the gentlemen who formed his escort; that he was willing and anxious to be separated from Miller and from all ideas of a Masonic expose; wished to live in habits of industry and respectability; to go to the interior of Canada and settle down as a British citizen and have his family sent to him; was sorry for the uproar his proceedings had made and for the disgrace he had caused his family." . . .

The Anti-Masons succeeded in carrying the State that fall upon the strength of their opposition to Masonry and the display they made in prosecuting the persons who were engaged in Morgan's deportation. Colonel King became alarmed, and he sent a confidential messenger into Canada to look for Morgan and bring him back. Morgan had changed his name, changed his clothes, bought a horse and left the village within forty-eight hours of the departure of those who took him there. The

colonel sent a second messenger, who employed an old Indian scout, thoroughly posted in the calling, to follow Morgan up. It was learned that he had gone east at the rate of fifty miles a day to a point down the river not far from Port Hope. He had sold his horse and disappeared. Doubtless he boarded a vessel there and sailed out of the country. At any rate that was the last trace of him ever obtained.

The Anti-Masonic movement which originated in 1826 was, to a certain extent, complicated with an increasing opposition to the Holland Land Company. Many farms were still burdened with debt to the company, and though the latter had treated the debtors liberally by accepting farm produce in lieu of cash, though losing money by the operation, many of the farmers found it next to impossible to meet their maturing obligations. The situation was made still more distressing by persistent reports that the company was preparing to advance the prices of all lands on which the original time of payment had elapsed. About this time Mr. Otto was succeeded by Mr. Evans in the conduct of the local affairs of the company, and under the administration of the latter contracts were somewhat modified in favor of the purchasers of land. But the general dissatisfaction continued to increase, manifesting itself in questioning the validity of the company's titles, in recommending heavier taxation of the property of the company, and in various other ways. The rising sentiment of opposition to this company was bound, in later years, to bring about serious trouble. It led, in fact, directly to what is known in local history as "The Land Office War."

The act of the State Legislature passed March 19, 1831, authorizing the erection of a new jail in Genesee county contained the following provisions:

The supervisors of the county of Genesee shall cause to be assessed . . . for the purpose of erecting a new jail in said county, the sum of three thousand dollars. . . . The said jail shall be built on the public ground now belonging to said county in the village of Batavia, and David Scott of Attica, Ziba S. Beardsley of Alexander, Daniel H. Chandler, Hinman Holden and Benjamin Porter junior, of the town of Batavia, are hereby appointed commissioners to superintend the building of the said jail, and they, or any three of them, are hereby authorized to fix or lay out the site, and devise a plan for the same. . . . The said commissioners shall be allowed the sum of one dollar and twenty-five cents per day for their services in the actual performance of their duty. . . .

The jail was built under the direction of the commissioners named, and still stands on the south side of West Main street, in Batavia.

By act of the Legislature April 26, 1831, Nathan Rumsey, Henry C.

Jones and James Sprague, second, were appointed commissioners to lay out a public highway from Angelica, Allegany county, to Batavia. By the opening of this road traffic between the two points named was greatly expedited, and the rural community particularly were benefited by the improvement.

One of the most noteworthy events in the history of Genesee county in these days was the disturbance which since has been generally known as "the land office war." Though some of the principal scenes in this uprising transpired in the village of Batavia, the trouble was not confined to that community, but was widespread throughout Genesee county and over a large portion of the Holland Purchase. Batavia was seriously involved in the trouble as the principal land office of the company was located in that village. Several accounts of this little "war" have been written. One of the most trustworthy appears in William Seaver's "Historical Sketch of the Village of Batavia," which is here reproduced:

The origin of the difficulty, as we understand it, was briefly this: Early in 1836 certain companies purchased of the Holland company all its unsold lands, mortgages, contracts, &c., indeed, all its remaining interest in these western counties, and immediately instituted a new order of things in reference to the settlers. Previous to this, however, a restive spirit, (engendered as it was said, by certain lawyers, anxious for a fee) had for some time been manifested against the company in reference to its original Title to the lands, so that when the new landlords came in, the settlers were by no means in the most amiable mood towards either the old or the new proprietors.

This state of things did not deter the new owners (or some of them at least) from going forward in the exercise of their legal rights and adopting some new and more stringent measures than had before existed for the collection of land debts, and by way of stimulus to prompt payment, a little addition to the price of the land was also proposed in case the old contracts were not fulfilled. All this had the effect to exasperate many who were directly interested, and their indignation at length broke forth in open acts of violence, intended not only to affect the interests of the new proprietors, but also the old company in consequence of whose transfer the new order of things had been introduced.

In Chatauque and the south part of Erie and Genesee counties the excitement prevailed with more intensity than in any other sections. Large and enthusiastic public meetings were there held, for the purpose, either by argument or intimidation, of inducing the proprietors to rescind some of their measures and adopt a more lenient system, but as these movements failed of producing the designed effect, open war was declared, and the belligerent forces were marshalled for the conflict.

The first object was to destroy the Land Office at Mayville, and for that purpose a large mob assembled on the night of Feb. 6th, 1836, commenced the grand assault, and without meeting the slightest resistance demolished the whole superstructure,

laying it even with the ground. They tore open the vault whose impregnable walls withstood their efforts for three hours, and having collected all the books and papers in one pile on the green, the torch was applied, and they were offered up as a burnt sacrifice to the demon of mobocracy.

Exulting in the complete success of this brilliant achievement, the belligerents, taking courage from victory, began to pant for wider fields of glory, and having proved the temper of their "maiden swords" on the Fortress of Mayville they resolved upon the higher and more chivalrous feat of undertaking to storm and demolish the very citadel of Land Office power at Batavia. Accordingly emissaries were sent in every direction to rouse up all the disaffected forces, and congregate them on a certain night prepared for the grand assault.

Meantime David E. Evans Esq., who then held the Land Office keys, and who had been informed of the transactions at Mayville, was also apprised of the threatened attack at Batavia, but not knowing when the demonstration might be made, he took the precaution to send all the books and valuable papers to Rochester beyond the reach of danger in any untoward emergency. Thus several weeks passed on, and as no hostile movement appeared, the books &c. were brought back and hopes were entertained that the storm would quietly subside. These hopes, however, were of short duration, for the fires of discontent had only been smouldering preparatory to breaking forth with renewed violence.

To give some idea of the feeling which prevailed in the south part of Erie county we quote the language of an agent sent into that quarter, who reported that "all labor is suspended, the whole adult male population meeting at taverns and stores, vowing vengeance against the 'land sharks,' threatening to burn their houses, and intimating that assassination will be the consequence of attempts to enforce the terms proposed by the new purchasers."

Without dwelling upon further preliminaries it will be sufficient to say that the ferment continued to increase until about the 12th of May, when intelligence was received that a very large mob from the south part of this and Erie counties were gathering, with the avowed intention of marching to this place and tearing down the land office, and the jail (in which two of their friends were imprisoned), and of committing other depredations on some of our citizens who had become obnoxious to them.

To know that such an attempt would be made was sufficient for our people at once to resolve upon the most firm and united resistance, and accordingly our public authorities both civil and military, aided by the citizens, made immediate preparations to repel the foe. The Land Office was converted into a sort of fortification, well stored with arms and ammunition, and thus matters rested in suspense, not knowing when the attack would be made, until about midnight on the 13th of May, when messengers arrived post haste from Attica and Alexander giving information that the mob was concentrating at the latter place in great force, supposed to be from 700 to 1,000, and that it would soon be upon us.

No sooner had this intelligence been received than all the bells in the village rang the alarm and a general muster of our "fighting" men immediately followed. Videtts were sent out by the sheriff on the different roads, to reconnoiter the enemy, and men were sent to the arsenal for a sufficient supply of muskets to arm all our citizens. Two boxes of ball cartridges of 1,000 each were also brought up, one of

which was left at the Land Office, and the other taken to the Court House where the sheriff (Nathan Townsend), who was the commanding officer on the occasion, held his headquarters, surrounded by the "chivalry" of the village ready for the conflict. What then followed we cannot better describe than in the language of a letter, from D. E. Evans, to J. J. Vanderkemp, written soon after the event and from which we are permitted to make the following extracts:

"Our force in the Land Office consisting of fifty men, remained patiently awaiting the arrival of the enemy till about sun rise, and none appearing we concluded they had abandoned the enterprise, and we appointed a committee to go to Alexander to ascertain what number had been there and who their leaders were. Col. Seaver, Col. Davis, and myself (the committee) immediately started, and meeting Mr. Cary near the bridge took him with us. We had proceeded but two miles when we met two of our expresses returning at full gallop, who told us they had just left the mob at Fargo's Tavern, two miles distant, forming in order to march to Batavia. They estimated the whole number at 700, about 400 of which were armed with fire-arms, and the residue with bludgeons, crow-bars and sledge hammers.

Previous to leaving the office I requested Mr. Chandler to remain at it with thirty men, till we either returned or sent him positive information that the mob had dispersed. On receiving information that the mob had really advanced to Fargo's, the committee lost no time in returning, and taking such requisite steps to reassemble the citizens, most of whom had gone to their respective homes. The mob soon after appeared in sight and halted on the road east of Judge Stevens's House, where they were met by Gen. Verplanck, and asked what they wanted? They answered "to right themselves." He asked in what manner? and was answered, "that it was none of his business." He then said it was his duty to inform them that if they committed any outrages in an organized body, upon either public or private property, they would be fired upon. Some of them then said they wished to have a conference with me, and he promised to inform me of it, and came to the office and did so. I desired him to return and say, that I positively declined having any communication whatever with an armed mob. Their number he estimated at about five hundred men.

Soon after he returned they put themselves in motion, crossed the bridge, marched to the office, and I supposed we should soon come to blows. After having halted in front of the office, and become sensible that an attack upon it would be attended with danger, it was evident to all spectators that they felt the awkwardness of their situation. After remaining still for a few minutes, four men came under the window in which I was sitting, and requested a conference with me, which I declined, refusing in a peremptory manner to have anything to do with them, and bid them defiance in no measured terms.

About this time I saw a sudden movement among them which I could not account for, but which I soon learned was occasioned by the (to them) unexpected appearance of Sheriff Townsend, with 120 men, armed with bright muskets, with bayonets fixed, in full march for the Office. He halted his men in front of my house, and advanced himself with three or four attendants, towards the mob, and was met by several of them. He told them his object in meeting them was to say, that if they attempted to destroy any building in the village, he should, without any further notice, fire a full volley among them. One of them was proceeding to argue the legality of

his doing it, but he cut the matter short by assuring them that he should do it whether legal or not, and advised them to be off very quickly.

They soon after went down the street half a mile, and had a boisterous consultation, some professing to wish to return and attack the Office, but by far the greatest part thought it best to go home. Some forty or fifty continued on westward, and the residue returned as they came, passing the Office without apparently looking at it. The most of them re crossed the Bridge and went off, but a few lurked about the Village, some of whom were apprehended and committed to prison, and among the number their reputed leader, a man by the name of Hill, a Constable in Holland, Erie County.

As you may readily imagine, our Village remained for several days, in a high state of excitement. The Military were called out, and two Cannons, assigned to Artillery Companies at Le Roy and Bethany, were sent for, and brought to the Village, and strong guards, composed of the Villagers only, were kept at night, as great apprehensions were entertained that the Village would be set on fire by incendiaries, which was threatened by the mob on their retreat, and those threats were reiterated from sections of the Country where we had reason to expect better things. Almost all business was at a stand in the Village, the Country people afraid to come to it, and the consequence was, the Mercantile men, Tavern-keepers, Grocers, and Mechanics, became apprehensive that the business of the place would go elsewhere.

It therefore became obvious, that either the office must be removed from this place, or some means devised to defend it with a few men, and I determined on erecting two strong block houses, one on the northeast, and the other on the southwest corners. They are made of solid timber from 10 to 12 inches thick, and each armed with thirty muskets, and amply supplied with ammunition, and twelve men in each, would drive a mob of 1,000 men from the vicinity of the office in a very short time. I have employed four men as a night guard, with directions to keep three of their number in the Block-houses, and one on the look-out on the outside. I now consider the office secure.

After the mob had taken their departure, and the citizens their breakfast, notice was given that a meeting would be held at the Court House to take measures for the security of the village. At this meeting, Messrs. Wm. Seaver, D. H. Chandler, and myself, were appointed a committee of safety, the duties of which I found vastly more arduous and unpleasant than I imagined. Having received positive information that a considerable number of persons, residents of Chautauque, Erie, and Genesee counties, were passing from town to town, endeavoring to raise another and larger, and in every respect more efficient force than the last, we concluded to lay the case before the Governor, and ask him to issue a proclamation, not that we supposed it would tend to allay the irritation against the new land company, but to satisfy the malcontents, that the state Government was not friendly to their proceedings, which they had been made to believe. Accordingly we despatched Dr. Van Tuyl to Albany, deeming it advisable to send a person who could give a clear and distinct account of the actual state of the country.

When the Doctor arrived in Albany the Governor was at Saratoga Springs, but returned next day, and very promptly issued the proclamation. He also authorized us to retain the two six-pounders we had, as long as we might want them, sent us two more with a supply of powder and round and canister shot, and several thousand

musket cartridges, and authorized us to take two twelve pounders from the arsenal at Canandaigua.

The captain of an artillery company at Bennington, by the name of Norris, having stated that he and his company and gun, a brass three pounder, were ready at any moment's notice, to turn out and attack Batavia, we represented the case to the Governor, who immediately directed the commissary general to order Capt. Norris to deliver the gun to the keeper of the arsenal at this place, forthwith. The Capt. was very unwilling to obey the order, pleading as an excuse that the people in the neighborhood would not permit the gun to be taken away but on being threatened to have his delinquency reported to the commissary general, and told that the consequence would be very serious to himself, he concluded to bring it."

Having been apprised of our formidable preparations for a determined resistance to mobocracy, the malcontents were not slow in coming to the wise conclusion that "prudence was the better part of valor," and all further attempts to attain their object by violent means, was at once abandoned as utterly hopeless.

Thus terminated the "Land Office War," and so far as the people of this place were concerned, it is but justice to say that they acquitted themselves in a manner worthy of all praise. No matter what may have been their individual opinions in regard to the origin of the difficulty, no sooner did they know that lawless violence was about to be committed, and that an infuriated mob, perhaps with the midnight torch, was preparing to invade us, than the fire of '76 kindled in every bosom, and they were prepared to resist, even at the price of their blood, the threatened aggression. As the 'Times' well said, "never before had we witnessed the interesting spectacle of a whole village of peaceful and quiet citizens transformed at the moment, and by a common impulse, from the varied and ordinary pursuits of business into efficient citizen soldiers—all, from highest to lowest, actuated by a common impulse—that of self defense at any and every hazard." The affair satisfied us by ocular demonstration that there is nothing so potent to quell a mob as ball and bayonet, and sure we are that had it not been for a fear of those articles in the hands of resolute citizens, and a perfect assurance that they would be used "to kill" in case the slightest aggression had been committed, the mob would have destroyed at least the Land Office and the Jail.

An event which occurred in Erie and Niagara counties in 1836 was of interest to many of the inhabitants of Genesee county. Benjamin Rathbun, a daring speculator residing in Buffalo, who seemed not to have profited by the financial disasters and ominous conditions of 1836, made plans for carrying on his speculations on a gigantic plan. He bought land and laid out a magnificent city at Niagara Falls, advertising an auction sale of lots for August 2. Just before this David E. Evans of Batavia, agent for the Holland Land Company, had made the discovery while on a visit to Philadelphia that Rathbun had forged his name on notes for large amounts. Returning to Buffalo after Rathbun had conducted his great sale at Niagara Falls, Mr. Evans confronted the swindling speculator, who confessed his crime and admitted that the paper

bearing Mr. Evans's name was but a small item in a large list of similar forgeries. The forgeries had reached nearly a million dollars. Rathbun's arrest followed at once. His trial began in Batavia March 29, 1837, and he was found guilty and sentenced to State prison for five years.

The general discontent and feeling of discouragement produced by the stringency of the money market augmented and intensified the opposition to the Holland Land Company. The holders of many farms owed not only the principal but the interest for many years on the debts on their lands, and the scarcity of money rendered payment more difficult than ever. Meetings were held in various places, not only in Genesee but in other counties whose territory was included in the Holland Purchase, where this dissatisfaction and opposition was publicly expressed. At these meetings the company was denounced, a modification of its terms of payment demanded, legislative interference requested, and the attorney-general called upon to contest the title of the company.

In February, 1837, a meeting termed an "agrarian convention" was held at Aurora, the counties of Genesee, Erie, Niagara and Chautauqua being represented. Dyre Tillinghast of Buffalo acted as president, Charles Richardson of Java and Hawxhurst Addington of Aurora as vice-presidents, and H. N. A. Holmes of Wales and A. M. Clapp of Aurora as secretaries. Resolutions were adopted expressive of the sentiment of those present as indicated in the foregoing, and those who favored the company were termed "Judases" and strongly censured. In some sections actual resistance to the agents of the company was offered. If an agent made an attempt to take possession of a farm, the holder of which was in arrears, threatening notices were placed before his eyes, and armed men so terrified him that he was glad to escape without having accomplished his mission. The Legislature refused to accede to the request of the farmers, knowing full well that there was no ground for contesting the title. In many of the towns the majority of the settlers succeeded in discharging their indebtedness. In a few localities the resistance was so stubborn and long continued that the company deferred the final resort to force until the holders acquired title to their farms by adverse possession, in which they were sustained by the courts. This condition of affairs in the rural communities undoubtedly tended to cripple the energies of the settlers, prevent progress and seriously delay improvements which would have been made under

more favorable circumstances. And all this time the conditions in favor of an ultimate open armed revolt were ripening.

Though the existing Genesee County Agricultural Society was not organized until 1839, an association with a similar aim and scope had been founded in Genesee county just a score of years previous to that date. On June 22, 1819, a number of representative men of Batavia and vicinity met at the home of Hinman Holden in that village and made arrangements for holding annual fairs. An agricultural society was organized at that meeting, with Joseph Ellicott for president, Hon. Samuel M. Hopkins president pro tem., and Parmenio Adams treasurer pro tem. It was decided to hold a meeting and exhibit in the month of October following, and those present agreed to raise five hundred dollars to defray the expenses of the event. Of this amount three hundred and fifty dollars was appropriated for premiums. Colonel Green and Colonel Towner were appointed marshals of the day. Little is known of this early agricultural society, but it must have been prosperous to a certain degree, as it was in existence for nearly, if not quite, twenty years.

The present society was organized in 1839. For twenty years the annual fairs were held in various places, sometimes on the Mix property, opposite the jail; some on Walnut street across the creek; others on the Clark property, at the head of Jackson street. But by the end of that time the society had reached such proportions, and its facilities were so limited that it was decided to purchase a permanent site for the annual fair and erect thereon buildings adequate to the needs of the growing organization. A half-mile track for horse racing and stock exhibits was constructed, on the old grounds on Ellicott street, costing \$3,047, and the expositions held annually under the auspices of the society became more successful with every succeeding year. The society was incorporated with the secretary of state, May 24, 1856, with these officers: President, Eden Foster; vice-president, John F. Plato; secretary, Horatio N. Wright; treasurer, Chauncey Kirkham, jr. In 1890 the society sold its old grounds to the Buffalo and Geneva Railroad Company and voted to purchase what was known as the Redfield grounds, the price agreed upon being six thousand dollars. This is the old "driving park property" of nearly twenty-four acres, and eight and one-half acres additional on the east side of the track, which includes an oak grove of two and one-half acres. A short time afterward the society purchased two additional acres of Mr. Redfield, making its total possessions about thirty-five acres.

Unfortunately the records of the society prior to 1870 are missing. Since that year, however, the principal officers have been as follows:

1870.—President, I. A. Todd; secretary, Lucien R. Bailey; treasurer, Augustus N. Cowdin.

1871.—President, George Burt; secretary, L. R. Bailey.

1872.—President, E. G. Townsend; secretary, G. H. Robertson; treasurer, A. R. Warner.

1873.—President, M. N. Moulthrop; secretary, F. M. Jameson; treasurer, A. R. Warner.

1874.—President, S. B. Luşk; secretary, J. H. McCulley; treasurer, A. R. Warner.

1875.—President, Warren J. Tyler; secretary, J. H. McCulley; treasurer, A. R. Warner.

1876.—President, Cortland Crosman; secretary, E. R. Hay; treasurer, A. R. Warner.

1877.—President, I. S. Durfee; secretary, E. R. Hay; treasurer, A. R. Warner.

1878.—President, Albert Parker; secretary, J. H. Robson; treasurer, E. L. Kenyon.

1879.—President, C. W. Van De Bogart; secretary, Nelson Bogue; treasurer, Robert A. Maxwell.

1880.—President, C. W. Van De Bogart; secretary, Nelson Bogue; treasurer, Robert A. Maxwell.

1881.—President, John H. McCulley; secretary, George W. Pratt; treasurer, Robert A. Maxwell.

1882.—President, Eli Taylor; secretary, J. B. Neasmith; treasurer, J. Holley Bradish.

1883.—President, D. L. Hodgson; secretary, Nelson Bogue; treasurer, O. Town, jr.

1884.—President, Nelson Duguid; secretary, J. M. McKenzie; treasurer, B. George Kemp.

1885.—President, Nelson Duguid; secretary, J. M. McKenzie; treasurer, B. George Kemp.

1886.—President, B. F. Peck; secretary, J. M. McKenzie; treasurer, B. George Kemp.

1887.—President, Nelson Bogue; secretary, J. M. McKenzie; treasurer, B. George Kemp.

1888.—President, E. J. Ingalsbe; secretary, Frank B. Redfield; treasurer, William Torrence.

1889.—President, R. R. Losee; secretary, L. F. Rolfe; treasurer, Frederick B. Parker.

1890.—President, James Z. Terry; secretary, L. F. Rolfe; treasurer, Frederick B. Parker.

1891.—President, Dwight Dimock; secretary, Greenville R. Safford; treasurer, Frederick B. Parker.

1892.—President, J. M. McKenzie; secretary, Albert E. Brown; treasurer, Frederick B. Parker.

1893–1894.—President, Wolcott Vandebogart; secretary, Albert E. Brown; treasurer, Frederick B. Parker.

1895.—President, W. E. Sumner; secretary, Albert E. Brown; treasurer, Frederick B. Parker.

1896.—President, Cyrus P. Bell; secretary, Albert E. Brown; treasurer, Charles D. Harris.

1897.—President, J. N. Parker; secretary, Albert E. Brown; treasurer, Charles D. Harris.

1898.—President, F. T. Miller; secretary, Albert E. Brown; treasurer, Charles D. Harris.

In May, 1840, the State Legislature passed an act providing for the erection of a new court house in Genesee county, appointing Walter Hubbell, Joshua A. Spencer and Amos P. Granger commissioners to locate the site and authorizing a loan of \$10,000 from the State to the county to defray the expense of building. Batavia having always been the county seat of the old Genesee county, the inhabitants of that village naturally expected that the proposed new court house would be erected there; but after the erection of Orleans county, Batavia was considered north of the geographical centre of the county, and the inhabitants of the southern towns made an effort to secure the location of the court house at a more central point. The discussion that followed was sharp and for a time bitter, but the advocates of a more southerly location finally withdrew their objections to Batavia's claim, with the understanding that residents of the northern part of the county would not oppose its division and the erection of a new county, a subject which began to be agitated at the time the court house project was instituted. The commissioners thereupon selected Batavia as a site for the new county building, soon after which the board of supervisors appointed Paul Richards of Orangeville and John Tomlinson of Le Roy as building commissioners. They contracted with Elias Pelton to do the mason work and Ira E. Phillips and Jonathan Hutchinson to con-

struct the wood work. Knowlton Rich and Consider Warner of Le Roy furnished the cut stone and Samuel R. Clifford of Le Roy furnished and put in position the pillars, caps, etc., of Lockport stone.

May 19, 1841, soon after the work of construction was begun, the county was divided, Wyoming county being erected from the southern portion of what was then Genesee county. The law dividing the county contained these provisions, among others:

All that part of the county of Genesee lying and being on the south side of a line beginning at the northwest corner of the town of Bennington, in the county aforesaid, and running thence east on the north line of the towns of Bennington, Attica and Middlebury, to the west line of the town of Covington; thence south on the east line of Middlebury to the southwest corner of the Craigie tract; thence east on the south line of said Craigie tract, and on the south bounds of the forty thousand acre tract to the east line of the said town of Covington, shall be a separate and distinct county of the State of New York, and be known by the name of Wyoming, and entitled to and possessed of all the benefits, rights, privileges and immunities, and subject to the same duties as the other counties of this State, and the freeholders and inhabitants thereof shall possess and enjoy all the rights and immunities which the freeholders and inhabitants of the several counties of this State are by law entitled to possess and enjoy. All the remaining part of the present county of Genesee shall be and remain a separate and distinct county by the name of Genesee,

All that part of the town of Covington which lies north of the aforesaid line, shall be and remain, from and after the passage of this act, a separate and distinct town of the said county of Genesee, by the name of Pavilion. . . .

There shall be a meeting of the board of supervisors of the present county of Genesee, on the second Tuesday of June next, at the court house in the village of Batavia, to transact such business as may be necessary in consequence of the passage of this act. . . .

The said supervisors when so convened as aforesaid, shall have power to form themselves into two separate and distinct boards, those residing in the county of Genesee to be considered as the board of supervisors in and for the said county of Genesee, and those residing in the county of Wyoming to be considered as the board of supervisors in and for the county of Wyoming. . . .

It shall be the duty of the treasurer of the county of Genesee and of the treasurer of the county of Wyoming, so to be appointed as aforesaid, to meet with the said supervisors at their said special meetings; and the said supervisors and treasurers when so assembled in joint board, shall apportion and divide all debts owing by the said county of Genesee, or to said county, and shall make such arrangements in relation to the poor-house property and the support of the county poor, as shall be just and equitable.

The said county of Genesee shall be entitled to elect two members of assembly, and the said county of Wyoming shall be entitled to elect two members of assembly, in the same manner as other counties of this State are by law entitled to elect members of assembly; and the said counties of Genesee and Wyoming shall compose the twenty-ninth congressional district.

Paul Richards, one of the building commissioners for the new court house, being a resident of the newly formed county of Wyoming, resigned that office and Pardon C. Sherman was named as commissioner in his place. The building, excepting the basement, was completed in 1843, and the first court therein was held in February of that year. Horace U. Soper and Moses Taggart were afterward appointed commissioners to complete the county clerk's office in the basement. The cost of the completed edifice was about \$17,000.

CHAPTER XII.

From the Erection of the Present County of Genesee to the Beginning of the War of the Rebellion—Two Decades of Steady Industrial and Commercial Development—New Churches Organized During That Period—Creation of the Town of Oakfield—Railroads Built in Genesee County—The Long Era of Peace Rudely Ended.

The period beginning with the erection of the new county of Genesee in 1841, and terminating with the inauguration of that terrific internecine struggle known in history as the war of the Rebellion, was characterized by few stirring or unusual incidents in Genesee county. In all communities, however, there were constant evidences of a steady, healthful development. Here and there new industries were founded and old ones strengthened, increasing the wealth of the community and enhancing values everywhere. In no case was there anything resembling a forced development. The inhabitants were then, as they are now, too conservative and thoughtful for that. The development was slow, steady, sure, permanent. Great pride was also shown by the inhabitants of the county in their educational institutions. The religious spirit, too, continued to thrive, and now and then the Christian people in the various communities organized themselves into church societies, and erected substantial, and in several cases handsome, houses of worship. The commercial world also became broader; and the establishment of banking institutions indicated the increasing prosperity along all lines. The opening of a railroad as far west as Batavia as early as 1837 gave a tremendous impetus to trade, which was still further increased in 1843 by the extension of the line to Buffalo. This was but the beginning, for within a few years the county was intersected

again and again by new steel thoroughfares, until it was furnished with transportation facilities excelled by those of no other county in the Empire State.

The first official act under the law dividing the county was performed June 8, 1841, when the board of supervisors of the new civil division met in Batavia and, in accordance with the provisions of the law enacted on May 19, organized the new county of Genesee with twelve towns, as follows: Alabama, Alexander, Batavia, Bergen, Bethany, Byron, Darien, Elba, Le Roy, Pavilion, Pembroke and Stafford. The town of Pavilion was increased in size March 23, 1842, by the annexation thereto of parts of the towns of Le Roy and Stafford. The town of Oakfield¹ was erected from a portion of Elba April 11, 1842. That portion of the legislative act creating the new town provided as follows:

From and after the first Monday of March next, all that part of the town of Elba, in the county of Genesee, lying west of a north and south line, beginning at the southwest corner of lot three, section five, township thirteen, range two of the Holland Land Company's land, running north upon said line of lots to the north bounds of said town, shall be a separate town by the name of "Oakfield," and the first town meeting therein shall be held at the house of Isaiah Olcott, on the first Tuesday in March, eighteen hundred and forty-three, at which Perez Howland, John C. Gardner and Clitus Wolcott shall preside.

The remaining part of the town of Elba shall be and remain a separate town by the name of Elba.

In May, 1842, a treaty between the Six Nations and commissioners on the part of the United States, the States of New York and Massachusetts and the Ogden Company, was held at Buffalo. By this convention it was agreed that the Ogden Company should have immediate possession of the unimproved lands on the Buffalo and Tonawanda Reservations, and that within two years from that date the Indians should leave the improved lands also on those reservations and go to those of Allegany and Cattaraugus counties, which they were to retain during their pleasure. The lands thus thrown into possession of the company were promptly surveyed, divided among the members and placed on the market.

The first religious society of which any record is left as having

¹ So named by reason of the large area of oak timber land comprised within its limits in the early days.

been organized during this period of nearly a score of years was the Second Methodist Episcopal church of Byron, which was established at South Byron September 26, 1842. John Cook was one of the leaders in the movement which resulted in the organization. The first pastor was the Rev. Alva Wright. In 1853 a church edifice was erected at a cost of about \$2,500. The First Methodist Episcopal church established at Byron Centre at an early day has been extinct many years.

A public meeting held at the house of Adna Tenny in Darien January 7, 1843, adopted a set of resolutions unique in their character. This action on the part of the inhabitants of that town was simply an incident of the hard times of that period. The resolutions adopted were as follows:

Resolved, That we as citizens of the State of New York, do hold, that a true and strict equality ought to be instituted between man and man in this free and enlightened Republic; and that all privileged orders ought to be unknown in a land of Freemen, where every man has a right to claim the equality we advocate.

Resolved, That we will use our united efforts as true and loyal citizens to establish, through our public servants that equality we now claim.

Resolved, That in order to effect this equality we will recommend to the Legislature of this State to instruct our Senators and recommend to our Representatives in Congress the necessity and propriety of reducing the wages of the members of Congress, at least one-half, or to an equality with the compensation received by the Farmer and Mechanic for their labor.

Resolved, That we will recommend to the Legislature of this State the necessity of reducing the fees of the Surrogate in said county of Genesee, and that all other officers in the several counties and in the State, or in other words to the county and State officers to an equality with that standard of compensation by which the laboring part of the community are governed and to which they are made to submit.

Resolved, That we recommend and petition the Legislature of this State, to abrogate that part of our Common School law requiring the board of Supervisors in each of the counties in this State, to appoint a Deputy Superintendent in their county. It creates an office of which we do not approve, and which we believe is not called for by a majority of the people of this State, and which is considered a drain to our common school fund which carries more out than it is able to return back again, by its best exertions, into that fountain from which it is taken, and we do further petition the legislature of this State to amend that part of our common school law relating to inspectors of common schools in the town of Darien so as to limit the meeting of such inspectors to two days in each year, one day in the fall, for the inspection of teachers.

One of the most important occurrences in the history of Genesee county was the construction of the early railroad lines extending into and through the territory embraced within the county. The first railroad communication eastward from any part of Genesee

county came with the opening of that portion of the Buffalo and Rochester railroad extending from Rochester as far west as Bergen, in 1836. During the following year the road was completed and put in operation as far as Batavia. The Attica and Buffalo railroad, chartered in 1836, was opened late in 1842. The Tonawanda railroad, chartered in 1832, was also first put in operation in 1842. By 1843 the first road named was also in operation between Buffalo and Rochester, thus forming a continuous chain of transportation by way of steam railroads from Buffalo to Albany and thence to New York. The first through train from Rochester to Buffalo was run, via the Attica and Buffalo line, January 8, 1843. The Buffalo and Rochester road was formed December 7, 1850, by a consolidation of the Attica and Buffalo and the Tonawanda railroads. In 1852 this company opened a direct road from Buffalo to Batavia, maintaining that part of the Attica and Buffalo line between Attica and Buffalo as a branch. Though the Attica and Buffalo line was organized prior to 1836, its operations were postponed by the financial panic of that time. Auburn and Syracuse had been connected by rail since 1838, and Utica with Syracuse since 1839, while in August, 1841, a road was opened from Auburn to Rochester. These were the early-forged links in the great New York Central consolidation of 1853, and greatly facilitated passenger and freight transportation to and from the East.

The Niagara Bridge and Canandaigua railroad, originally the Canandaigua and Niagara Falls railroad, filed articles of incorporation March 1, 1851, was opened for traffic April 1, 1854, and leased to the New York Central Railroad Company September 1, 1858. The road has since been merged in the New York Central & Hudson River Railroad.

In 1852 the Buffalo and New York City Railroad Company¹ opened a line of road from Buffalo to Batavia, thence eastward to Avon, and thence southeastward to Corning. In a short time, however, the track between Batavia and Buffalo was taken up, while the line beyond Batavia became the property of the Erie Railroad Company.

In May, 1853, the various companies and roads between Buffalo and Albany were consolidated under the name of the New York Central Railroad. The importance of this road was still further increased in 1869 by the absorption of the Hudson River road.

¹ In 1857 the name was changed to Buffalo, New York and Erie. Its road was subsequently leased to the Erie Railroad Company.

An idea of the passenger transportation facilities of these days may be gleaned from a report of a convention of delegates representing all the railroad companies between the Hudson river and Buffalo, namely, the Attica and Buffalo, the Tonawanda, the Auburn and Rochester, the Auburn and Syracuse, the Syracuse and Utica, the Utica and Schenectady, the Mohawk and Hudson, and the Troy and Schenectady railroads, held at the American hotel in Albany, January 31, 1843. On this occasion resolutions as follows were adopted:

Resolved, That it is expedient to run two daily lines between Buffalo and the Hudson river, connecting with the morning and night boats out of Albany and Troy, and that each line be run in 25 hours, including stops, and that the same be apportioned as follows:

Buffalo to Rochester, 6 hours; Rochester to Auburn, 6 hours; Auburn to Syracuse, 2 hours; Syracuse to Utica, 4 hours; Utica to Albany and Troy, 7 hours—25 hours.

* * *

Resolved, That during the winter months the train shall leave Buffalo at 7 in the morning, reach and remain over night at Syracuse; and leave Albany at 9 o'clock in the morning, and stay over night at Auburn, so that a passenger may make the passage between Albany and Buffalo in two days.

In 1845 the Rev. A. C. Paine, M. D., gathered together fifteen adherents of the Methodist faith in the town of Pembroke, at Corfu, and organized the "First Methodist Protestant church of Pembroke." After worshiping in various places for eight years, the society, in 1853, erected a brick house of worship at a cost of three thousand dollars. The society had a prosperous career.

Three churches were founded in Genesee county in 1849. The First Christian church of Pembroke, located at North Pembroke, was organized June 30 of that year, with fifteen members, by the Rev. Joseph Weeks. A year later they built an edifice, which was enlarged and remodeled in 1888.

April 8, 1849, St. Joseph's Roman Catholic church of Batavia¹ began its existence as an independent church and parish, under the pastoral charge of the Rev. Father Edward Dillon, who was appointed to the charge by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Timon. The first services were held in the historic brick school house on the corner of Main and Eagle streets. The present edifice, located on the corner of East Main and Summit streets, which cost forty-five thousand dollars, was not erected until 1864.

It was through the efforts of Father Dillon of Batavia that St. Peter's

¹ See History of the Village of Batavia.

Roman Catholic church of Le Roy was organized, in 1849, a short time after his appointment to the newly organized parish in Batavia. Within a few weeks after coming to Batavia Father Dillon visited Le Roy and said mass in the famous old Round House, on the site of the present Universalist church. Monthly services were held thereafter for some time, and during July Bishop Timon made his first visit to the congregation. In September following Father Dillon purchased a lot on Pleasant street and erected thereon a frame church, in which the first mass was celebrated on Christmas night following. From October, 1850, to October, 1852, various pastors conducted services. On the latter date the Rev. Francis O'Farrell assumed charge, remaining four years. In the meantime he also served the churches at Batavia and Attica. Father Brown and Father McGlew succeeded him in turn. Owing to the growth in the membership of the church he bought a lot on Myrtle street. The Rev. Thomas Cunningham, who came in 1860, bought eight acres of land on Exchange street, laid out St. Francis's cemetery, increased the church accommodations and established a fund for a new church. A parish was organized in December, 1868, and the Rev. Daniel De Lacy Moore became the first resident priest. He purchased a lot on Lake street and made plans for a new church. Under his ministrations the work of construction was begun. But he died in January, 1871, and the Rev. L. Vanderpool, the present pastor, who had assumed charge in December, 1870, completed the task. The church was dedicated in December, 1873, by Bishop Ryan of Buffalo. A parochial school house was opened September 2, 1889.

The Presbyterian church of Pembroke and Batavia was organized December 24, 1854, through the offices of the Rev. William Lusk of Batavia. The original members numbered twenty-two, and the Rev. Daniel C. Houghton was the first pastor. The first church edifice, built in 1855, a frame building, cost five thousand dollars.

St. Michael's Episcopal church of Oakfield dates from 1858. It has had an unusually interesting career. In 1856 the Rev. G. V. C. Eastman became head master of Cary Collegiate Seminary. Finding in town several people who had been attached to the Church of England, he began to hold services in the chapel of the seminary. The movement soon acquired sufficient strength to warrant the organization of a parish. The records show that June 14, 1858, a meeting was held for that purpose. The Rev. Mr. Eastman presided; two wardens, A. C. Dodge, Cyrus Pond, and eight vestrymen were elected. In 1861 the

Rev. H. V. Gardner became rector and was succeeded, May 4, 1865, by the Rev. James R. Coe, who held the rectorship until his death, March 16, 1874.

After Mr. Coe's death, the Rev. Henry A. Duboc served a brief but acceptable rectorship. His successor was the Rev. Charles H. Kellogg, who resigned May 2, 1878. The following October the Rev. H. M. Brown assumed the rectorship, which he held till 1881. Subsequently for several years the parish was served by R. H. Coe as lay reader, with occasional services by the Rev. Dr. Hitchcock and other clergymen. The Rev. A. J. Warner was then called and was rector from November, 1886, to September, 1889. The Rev. C. C. Gove, deacon, was elected minister-in-charge October 4, 1889, and having been advanced to priest's orders in St. Michael's church by Bishop Coxe, on St. Thomas day, 1891, was then made rector and is the present incumbent.

Until February 1, 1885, the services were held in the chapel of the seminary. On that day services were celebrated for the first time in St. Michael's church. June 18 following, Bishop Coxe of Buffalo, assisted by five clergymen, consecrated the edifice.

Though the First Roman Catholic church of Bergen was organized about 1850, the house of worship was not erected until 1859. The Rev. Father McGowan, who for several years had pastoral charge of the congregation, was chiefly instrumental in the erection of the church. In 1883 the original building was torn down and the present handsome edifice erected, under the supervision of Father Maloy. The parish had no resident priest until 1886, when the Rev. Father O'Riley came.

Ingham Collegiate Institute of Le Roy¹ was incorporated April 6, 1852. The trustees named in the charter were A. P. Hascall, A. S. Upham, Allen Ayrault, I. Chandler, M. L. R. P. Thompson, William C. Wisner, John Chester, Charles N. Mattoon, G. H. McKnight, J. B. Shaw, W. W. Evarts, D. C. Houghton, Stephen G. Austin, Pelatiah Perit, A. F. Barton, Aristarchus Champion, Miles P. Lampson, Marshall Smead, Dennis Church, James R. Bond, Albert Brewster, James Falkner, Phineas Stanton and M. M. Ingham.

In 1852 the Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank, which had been established in Batavia in 1838, was removed to Buffalo, principally through the influence of Elbridge G. Spaulding, who was elected president in 1852. The first board of trustees consisted of E. G. Spaulding, Rufus

¹ See the chapter on Education in Genesee County.

L. King, John S. Ganson, William R. Gwinn and H. Pompelly. The original capital of the bank was one hundred thousand dollars.

In the meantime noticeable improvements were effected in the various towns of the county. The industrial development was steady, though not rapid, as the increase in population was not very marked during this period. Among the first of the new industries to be established were the Oakfield mills, located on a branch of Oak Orchard creek in the town of Oakfield. These mills were built in 1812 by Stephen Olmsted, who operated them successfully for fourteen years. In 1856 they were purchased by Calvin Nobles. He continued their operation alone until 1883, when he sold them to his son, N. C. Nobles, who remodeled the mills and put in modern roller machinery, using both steam and water for motive power. In 1842 Stephen Olmstead purchased the old Nobles mill at Oakfield. In 1856 he constructed, in connection therewith, a plaster mill, the original capacity of which was twenty-five tons per day. The stone has always been taken from the town, in the vicinity of the mill. In 1892 the business went into the hands of the Olmsted Stucco Company, consisting of F. A. Olmsted, C. P. Olmstead and H. W. Olmsted. The plant was destroyed by fire in August, 1893, and was rebuilt on a larger scale and in operation again in December following. In 1896 the enterprise was sold to the Otto B. Englisch Plaster company, which still operates it. It is one of the principal industries of the town.

In 1837 Caryville, the principal village in Oakfield, changed its name to Plain Brook. Soon after the name was changed to Oakfield, under which name it was incorporated in 1858. August 7 of that year the first officers under the charter were elected, as follows: Trustees, Andrew Thompson, Virgil C. Calkins, Asa A. Woodruff, Abner C. Dodge, S. P. Champlin; assessors, Rice Baldwin, Samuel Fellows, Horace R. Holt; clerk, Solomon H. Parmalee; treasurer, Cyrus Pond; collector, Thomas Brown; poundmaster, De Witt C. Colony; inspectors of election, Samuel March, A. A. Woodruff, S. P. Champlin.

Batavia experienced many changes during these two decades. In 1850 John Enger purchased the old stone church on West Main street, built by the Methodist society in 1827, which he converted into a brewery. In 1855 the Batavia Gas Light Company was organized with a capital of \$32,500. In 1857 Eli Fish built large ale vaults on the site of the old brewery built by Libbeus Fish in 1827.

In Le Roy prosperity was in evidence on all sides. But the place

had been devastated by several fires in earlier years, and the inhabitants were now awakening to the necessity of securing better protection against the ravages of the destructive element. Consequently a fire department was organized February 8, 1851, with John W. Shedd as chief engineer, John G. Barber as first assistant chief, and A. O. Comstock as secretary. The department for many years consisted of a chemical company, a hose company and a hook and ladder company. For nearly thirty years Samuel F. Comstock was secretary of the department. He died in 1892, since which time F. A. Steuben has served in that office. The Le Roy Chemical Engine Company was organized October 5, 1885, with these members: F. M. Comstock, W. C. Boak, F. L. B. Taft, T. W. Larkin, C. E. Curtiss, J. K. Boak, F. H. Morgan, S. D. Gilbert, W. F. Huyck, Hobart S. Kelsey, L. W. Steuben, Frank W. Ball, Charles M. Rider, W. F. McKenzie, Edward P. Freeman, John C. Ross, W. M. Chapman, Edward Priester, H. H. Falkner, S. H. Murdock, W. E. Humelbaugh and J. W. Olmsted. November 2, 1896, the village trustees engaged a steam engine of the Silsby Manufacturing Company of Seneca Falls, paying therefore twenty dollars per week, until the completion of the new waterworks system in that village. The chief engineers of the fire department have been as follows:

1851, Colonel John W. Shedd; 1852-1856, John G. Barber; 1857, Samuel T. Howard; 1858, records missing; 1859-1861, John G. Barber; 1862, Angus L. Tompkins; 1863, John G. Barber; 1864-1867, James Allison; 1868-1872, W. S. Brown; 1873-1874, A. S. Tryon; 1875, John G. Barber; 1876, Gideon Fordham (removed by the village trustees and W. S. Brown elected in 1877 to succeed him); 1878-1886, Angus L. Tompkins; 1887-1890, John Wiss; 1891-1892, Frank Siez; 1893-1895, Saphrine D. Gilbert; 1896-1898, Stanley M. Smith.

The Le Roy Firemen's Benevolent Association was incorporated April 11, 1853, the first officers being: President, John J. J. Tompkins; vice-president, Abram D. Lampkins; secretary, John H. Lent; treasurer, Charles Morgan; directors, John H. Stanley, Seaman T. Wright, Samuel T. Howard. The following is a list of the presidents of the association:

1853, John J. J. Tompkins; 1854, A. O. Comstock; 1855, Solomon T. Wright; 1856-57, John H. Stanley; 1858-63, John J. J. Tompkins; 1864-76, John G. Barber; 1877, W. S. Brown; 1878-79, Gideon Fordham; 1880, Angus L. Tompkins; 1881-85, Edwin L. Bishop; 1886-98, S. Percy Hooker.

The charter of Le Roy was amended by act of the Legislature passed April 6, 1857. By this instrument the boundaries of the village were defined as follows:

All that district of country hereafter described shall be known and distinguished by the name of the village of Le Roy, that is to say, all that part of the town of Le Roy, in the county of Genesee, bounded as follows, to wit: Beginning at a point in the centre of the Niagara road, on the west line of James R. Lynn farm; thence along said west line north, so far that a line running west drawn parallel with the Niagara road shall intersect Brockport street at George W. Blodgett's north line; thence west on said parallel line with the Niagara road, until it strikes a line running north from the east line of land formerly known as the Benjamin Wilcox farm; thence south on said line to the east line of said Wilcox farm, on said Niagara road; thence continuing south on the east line of said Wilcox farm, so far as to intersect a line which, running due east, will meet the road crossing Allen's creek, near Haskin's mill, where the same intersects the Bethany road; thence easterly along the said road crossing Allen's creek, to where said road intersects the Pavilion road, by the south side of land formerly owned by widow Munn; thence east on a parallel line with said Niagara road, so far as to intersect a line drawn due south from the place of beginning; thence north to the place of beginning.

The first trustees of the village under the new charter were A. P. Hascall, S. S. Bryant, S. Chamberlin, A. G. Carpenter and J. H. Stanley.

Le Roy has suffered from numerous destructive fires, one of the most disastrous of which, during the period under discussion, occurred at three o'clock on the morning of January 17, 1855. The flames originated in an old wooden building occupied by the printing office of the Genesee Herald, owned by Mr. Grummon, and Mr. Pinney's tobacco store. Among those whose places of business were destroyed were Samson & Elmore, Foreman & Sons, Barton & Olmstead, James Annin, Browning & Kelsey, Hascall & Bangs, Mr. Olmsted and Mr. Adams. The total loss was about one hundred thousand dollars.

The Le Roy Gas Light Company was organized in July, 1860, with a paid-in capital of twenty-five thousand dollars. Lucius N. Bangs and Chauncey L. Olmstead were largely interested in establishing the company. The first officers were: President, Nathan Randall; treasurer, Patrick H. Agan; secretary, superintendent and inspector, Charles M. Randall. The works, located at Allen's creek between the Central and Erie railroads, were opened in 1861. In 1890 the company added an electric light plant to its establishment, but the village now operates that plant under condemnation proceedings instituted in 1897. Nathan Randall served as president of the gas company until 1865, when he

was succeeded by Chauncey L. Olmstead. General C. Fitch Bissell became president in 1874, and his son, D. Jackson Bissell in 1889, the latter still serving in that office.

Among the other industries established in Le Roy during this period were the broom factory of Jerome French, which was started in 1849 in the old Rockwell hotel, two and one half miles south of the village. In 1854 M. A. Ladd established a carriage shop in the village, erecting a stone building of two stories.

In Darien Henry L. Harlow, in 1844, began the manufacture of carriages in a small way at Harlow's Corners. Soon after he admitted his younger brothers, Jefferson P. and Charles J. Harlow, into partnership. From time to time the business increased and the market was extended until at one time the firm employed thirty-five men and sold the product of its factory in seven or eight different States. The business was continued in Darien, and then in Lancaster, for a period of about forty years.

While Genesee county, in common with the country at large, was enjoying an era of prosperity following the financial panic of 1857, the country passed through the most important presidential campaign which had occurred since the formation of the Union. This was the campaign of 1860--the forerunner of the tremendous crisis in the affairs of state which terminated in the Civil war. There were four national tickets in the field, headed respectively by Abraham Lincoln, John C. Breckinridge, John Bell and Stephen A. Douglas. Of the three hundred and three electoral votes, Lincoln received one hundred and eighty, Breckinridge seventy-two, Bell thirty-nine, and Douglas twelve. The result produced great rejoicing in the triumphant Republican party in the Northern States, but with it was intermingled an ever-increasing volume of dissatisfaction and rage, which came up from the South like a tidal wave, culminating in open rebellion and the secession of several of the Southern States. Before the country could realize the catastrophe which had overtaken it, Sumter had been fired upon and the nation was involved in all the horrors of what proved to be a sanguinary civil war, the greatest in the history of the world.

CHAPTER XIII.

THE WAR OF THE REBELLION.

On the morning of April 15, 1861, the daily newspapers which reached Batavia bore the sorrowful tidings of the bombardment of Fort Sumter on the 12th and 13th of the month. On that day business of all kinds, public and private, was neglected for the discussion of the portentous event. War was the sole topic of conversation; but even yet it was believed by most men of intelligence and judgment that the moment that the powerful arm of the government was uplifted against the offenders they would abandon their treasonable outbreak and bow in submission to the federal authority. Many months elapsed, however, blood was shed in the border States, and millions of treasure were expended before even the highest government officials realized that a long and desolating war had begun.

April 15, the day of the evacuation of Fort Sumter, President Lincoln issued a proclamation calling for seventy-five thousand militia for three months' service. This call in itself was sufficient evidence of the general belief at the national capital that the war would prove to be no more than a summer-long conflict. The quota of New York State under this call was 13,280, and it was more than filled. May 3 another call for troops was issued, under which, and acts approved July 22, half a million men were required. No sooner was the first call for troops made public than Genesee county was plunged into a fever of martial enthusiasm. Flags were unfurled to the breeze from hundreds of windows, and an intensely war-like spirit pervaded the atmosphere everywhere. An enthusiastic meeting was held immediately at Batavia, when twenty volunteers were enrolled. The same evening a meeting was held at Le Roy, and others in the various towns of the county followed.

April 18, the county authorities received official information that five hundred men would be needed from Genesee county. In accordance with this demand public meetings were held on the afternoon and evening of Saturday, April 20, at Concert hall, in Batavia, at which

forty-eight young men were enrolled. On that occasion Trumbull Cary, John Fisher, Junius A. Smith, Seth Wakeman and James M. Willett were named as a committee to solicit subscriptions to a fund for the support of the families of those who enlisted. For a similar purpose a committee of three was appointed in each town, as follows:

Alabama.—Chauncey Williams, George H. Potter, Edward Halsey.
 Alexander.—Heman Blodgett, Earl Kidder, E. G. Moulton.
 Bethany.—Lemuel F. Lincoln, A. G. Torrey, Carlos Huggins.
 Bergen.—Horatio N. Reed, Samuel Richmond, Josiah Pierson.
 Byron.—J. T. Boynton, Loren Green, Addison Terry.
 Darien.—J. W. Hyde, Colonel A. Jefferson, T. C. Peters.
 Elba.—Alva U. Willis, A. Hulet, C. H. Monell.
 Le Roy.—Hon. A. S. Upham, Walter Gustin, A. O. Comstock.
 Oakfield.—Charles H. Chamberlin, John C. Gardner, William Dunlap.
 Pavilion.—Oswald Bond, Warren Fay, George Tomlinson.
 Pembroke.—G. W. Wright, D. N. Wells, R. F. Thomson.

From the beginning of the work, local recruiting progressed rapidly. April 29 the formation of the first company in the county was completed, and under the command of Captain Augustus I. Root it left the county to become part of the Twelfth Regiment, N. Y. Vol. Inf. May 14 a second company, in command of Captain James R. Mitchell, left to join its regiment. The third company, commanded by Captain William L. Cowan, followed May 15.

While these military companies were being formed, the patriotic women of Genesee county began the organization of associations for providing for the soldiers in the field comforts, and even luxuries, which the government did not furnish—such as flannels, havelocks, articles of clothing, medicines, etc. These things were supplied in liberal quantities, and accomplished much toward the amelioration of the far from pleasant condition of the men who had gone to the front for the preservation and maintenance of the American Union. Among those who were leaders and most active workers in this noble and gracious cause, were Mrs. Gad B. Worthington, Mrs. Richard Cotes, Mrs. John Fisher, Mrs. George H. Holden, Mrs. Alva Smith, Mrs. E. R. Pratt, Mrs. Levi Jackson, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. N. G. Clark, Mrs. Putnam, Mrs. Thomas Yates, Mrs. John Wood, Mrs. Seth Wakeman, Mrs. Levant B. Cotes, Mrs. S. C. Holden, Mrs. Junius A. Smith, Mrs. Dean Richmond, Mrs. H. U. Howard, Mrs. Macy, Miss M. Mallory, Miss Parsons, Miss Carrie Pringle and many others.

The first engagement participated in by any company sent to the

front by Genesee county occurred on Monday, July 18, 1861. On that day the Twelfth Regt. N. Y. Vol. Inf., of which Company K was organized in Batavia, took a leading part in the sharp skirmish at Bull Run Creek, Va., the preliminary movement in the memorable battle of Bull Run, which occurred three days later. About 2 p. m. Richardson's Brigade of Tyler's Division, consisting of the First Massachusetts, Second Michigan, Third Michigan and Twelfth New York Regiments of Infantry, with the New York Regiment in advance, arrived at Centreville after a long and weary march from Vienna, and turned to the left from Centreville Heights towards Bull Run. The division had advanced to a point about a mile and a half south from Centreville, when the rebels opened fire upon it with artillery. Company K, commanded by Captain A. I. Root, being on the left flank, was nearest the rebel battery and was among the first to feel the effects of its fire. The New York regiment was immediately formed in line of battle in an open field and two companies, deployed as skirmishers, at once advanced toward a thicket of small pines where the rebels were supposed to be in force. They were followed and supported by the remaining eight companies of the regiment, and these were followed and supported by the balance of the brigade. As the skirmishers approached the woods they were received with a heavy fire from the enemy's advance posted there, but were promptly and nobly sustained by the regiment. The order was:

“ Twelfth New York, fix bayonets and clear the woods! ”

Bayonets were fixed, an intervening fence was scaled, and the regiment rushed double quick into the woods ten or twelve rods with bayonets at charge, when the boys were met with a sudden and fierce fire from Longstreet's entire division of the rebel army. The bullets fell like hailstones. Fortunately the rebels were not experienced fighters and the bullets flew high. The rattle of the balls against the trees was terrific, and branches and leaves fell like grass before the mower. The regiment was thrown into confusion and compelled to retire to form in line again, and it fell back to the other side of the field over which it had just charged. In this charge the regiment suffered a loss of over four hundred men in killed, wounded and prisoners. Company K, of Batavia, lost Privates Lathrop, mortally wounded; Grimes, severely wounded; and Charles Durant and Johnson, taken prisoners.

While the regiment was being re-formed a youthful lieutenant, fresh from West Point, and on that day acting as aid to General Tyler, rode up and said:

“I know some of those boys. They are from Batavia. Let me lead their regiment down through this ravine and attack the rebel flank.”

The desired permission was not granted, however, though the opinion has been expressed, by several who participated in that action, that it could have been a wise and successful one. That young lieutenant was a Batavia boy, Emory Upton, afterwards Major General!

There was no more fighting that day. The division fell back to Centreville Heights, where it remained until it advanced to participate in the bloody battle of Bull Run of July 21.

The action of July 18 was Company K's first “baptism of fire.” But the members of this company afterwards participated in many of the battles of the war. Its captain attained the rank of colonel and died at the head of his regiment—the Fifteenth New York Cavalry—in one of the closing battles of the war. Its orderly sergeant became major—Major S. D. Ludden. Its second sergeant became captain—Captain Charles F. Rand. Private John B. Foote became a lieutenant. This company, the first to organize in Genesee county, and the first to depart from Batavia for the scene of the conflict, had the following officers:

Captain, Augustus I. Root; lieutenant, William P. Town; ensign, Lucius Smith; sergeants, Samuel D. Ludden, Charles F. Rand, James F. Taylor, Thomas Tanzey; corporals, Samuel McChesney, William P. Jones, James P. Taylor, Joseph L. Hunt; musicians, Albert A. Mead, Francis M. Lincoln.

The privates were as follows:

William B. Aird, George W. Baars, John W. Bartlett, John C. Beach, Almon G. Bentley, Franklyn Billings, James Brayley, John Briggs, Henry R. Casler, James Clifton, Zelotus R. Colby, James Conway, James E. Cross, Charles F. Davenport, Robert Dearlove, Michael Delano, Charles Durant, William Enwright, Harrison Ferguson, John B. Foote, Daniel W. Ford, Alvin Fox, Patrick Garrity, John G. Gartner, Jasper Gibbs, John Glansbroth, William Graham, Jacob Heiber, Charles A. Hickox, William Johnson, Barney Karker, George Keem, William Lathrop, William H. Leonard, Peter Mischlin, Frank Murphy, William H. Nickols, Robert Peard, Cornelius W. Post, George W. Reynolds, Michael Roach, Michael Ryan, Frank Seamons, James Shepard, George Smith, Hiram W. Smith, Parmemis Skinner, Albert P. Stage, John Stone, William Thompson, Timothy Tierney, Horace F. Tracy, William Wheeler.

The Twelfth Regiment, of which Captain Root's company formed a part, was commanded by Col. Ezra L. Walrath and was mustered into the service May 13, 1861.

The Twenty-eighth Regiment, N. Y. Vol. Infantry, was organized at Albany to serve two years. The companies of which it was com-

posed were raised in the counties of Genesee, Niagara, Ontario, Orleans and Sullivan. The members of the regiment left Batavia May 13, 1861, and on May 22 the organization was mustered into the service of the United States at Albany. The Genesee county company, organized by Captain James R. Mitchell, afterwards major, was in command of Captain Charles H. Fenn. Its other officers were:

First lieutenant, William W. Rowley; second lieutenant, George M. Ellicott; sergeants, Lucien R. Bailey, Charles D. Searles, George W. Sherwood, Edward J. Watts; corporals, Leander Hamilton, Chandler Gillam, Robert E. Whitney, Darwin Fellows; musicians, John Prost, Silas Bragg.

The following persons went out with the company as privates:

Calvin Annis, George H. Alien, William F. Albro, Edmund Bragdon, Byron Brinkerhoff, James F. Bennett, Riley Blount, George Barnard, Lafayette Baker, Oscar Barnes, Philip Bettinger, George H. Bolton, Henry Baldwin, John S. Barber, William H. Colburn, Roswell Coddington, Robert Chappell, Henry Close, Charles H. Crandell, Alexander Comyns, Henry Dykeman, Joshua C. Davis, Melvin Dodge, Decatur Doty, Irvin H. Ewell, Kirkland Ewell, Theodore Eldridge, Joseph Ennis, George Griffin, Cleveland Gillett, Joseph Gibson, Peter Howland, William Howland, Porter Howard, Truman M. Hawley, George M. Hamilton, Isaac Hotchkiss, James G. Lawton, Charles G. Liscomb, Joseph Luce, John Moran, Barnard Murray, Lyman B. Miner, William McCracken, Richard Outhardt, Charles A. Perkins, Flavius Perkins, Edward C. Peck, Erastus Peck, Franklin Peck, Michael Quirk, Charles B. Rapp, Harlow M. Reynolds, Michael Ryan, Howard M. Snell, Henry Scott, William B. Simmons, Stephen Tayler, Robert Thompson, Milton Tripp, George Thayer, John Van Buren, Francis M. Weatherlow.

The regiment of which this company formed a part remained at Camp Morgan, Albany, about three weeks, and was then ordered to Washington. The next orders carried them to Martinsburg, Va. Soon after, at Harper's Ferry, it was attached to the Third Brigade, Ninth Army Corps, under command of General George H. Thomas, and spent the summer and fall in doing picket duty along the Potomac. Early in the winter the regiment went into quarters at Frederick, Md. January 1, 1862, it moved to Hancock, Md., where it remained two months. March 1, the day designated for the grand move of the Army of the Potomac, the Twenty-eighth proceeded to Virginia, passing the summer in the Shenandoah Valley. In the fall it marched to Martinsburg again, thence to Culpepper Court House. In this place and vicinity a month was passed. After the battle of Chancellorsville it proceeded to Washington, and soon afterward left for the North. It was mustered out of the service of the United States at Lockport, June 2, 1863.

The regiment participated in the battles of Cedar Mountain, Antietam and Chancellorsville. At the battle of Cedar Mountain Colonel Donnelly, commanding the regiment, received wounds which resulted in his death August 15, 1862; Lieutenant Colonel Edwin F. Brown had an arm shot off; Major Elliott W. Cook was made a prisoner; Adjutant Charles B. Sprout was killed in action, and Lieutenant Bailey of Company F was wounded. The regiment lost heavily in this engagement. The record of the officers of this regiment who went from Genesee county follows:

Major.—James R. Mitchell, commissioned June 20, 1861; resigned September 30, 1861.

Captains.—William W. Rowley, commissioned November 10, 1862; mustered out with regiment. James R. Mitchell, commissioned —; promoted to major June 20, 1861. Charles H. Fenn, commissioned July 4, 1861; mustered out with regiment.

First Lieutenants —Charles H. Fenn, commissioned —; promoted to captain May 19, 1861. William W. Rowley, commissioned July 4, 1861; promoted to captain November 10, 1862. George M. Ellicott, commissioned November 10, 1862; mustered out with regiment.

Second Lieutenants.—William W. Rowley, commissioned —; promoted to first lieutenant May 19, 1861. George M. Ellicott, commissioned July 4, 1861; promoted to first lieutenant November 10, 1862. Lucien R. Bailey, commissioned February 7, 1863; mustered out with regiment.

Capt. William L. Cowan's company (Company D) of the Fourteenth Regiment, New York Volunteer Militia, was recruited in Genesee county, organized at Batavia, inspected May 8, 1861, and mustered into the service of the United States May 17, 1861, for two years. Captain Cowan was a resident of Darien. The other officers commanding the company were:

First lieutenant, Robert H. Foote, of Batavia; second lieutenant, George E. Gee of Darien; sergeants, Thomas R. Hardwick of Pembroke, Almon C. Barnard, Jesse R. Decker of Batavia. Irwin H. Crosman of Alexander; corporals, David W. Manning, Harry Parsons, Hiram H. Van Dake, Thomas L. Ostrom; musicians, James B. Potter and Gregory Shaver.

The following were mustered as privates:

Oriando Aldrich, Charles Archer, Charles Averill, Lucius F. Brown, James Bailey, Freeman F. Barber, William H. Barnett, Martin W. Bliton, Thomas Bowie, John H. Brown, Warren P. Burr, Austin A. Bagley, George Carpenter, George Chamberlin, Daniel Chamberlin, Martin Coon, Ira S. Cross, William E. Crissey, Ellery L. Delano, James Derick, George Drain, Stephen Eums, Henry Farnham, George Fisher, Demetres Glenn, Clark E. Gould, Abram Haner, Bruce Herington, Henry Hike, Nathan B. Hopkins, Lowell Howe, Nelson Jenkins, Daniel Johns, Phillip Lapp, Andrew Lee, James A. Lewis, John Lyon, Artemas Maxon, Richard P. Merrill, James

McDermitt, Arthur O'Neil, Martin Pilgrim, William H. Randall, Almon Secord, Robert Scovell, Joseph Shaw, William Shaw, William Smith, Francis D. Smith, Andrew Seiber, Andrew Strobel, Paddock L. Tucker, Charles H. Tessey, Carmel D. Townsend, Edward Tibbits, Randolph Tubbs, Arthur Tumatly, Peter Van Valkenburg, Charles B. Vickery, Ira Woodin, Benjamin Winans, Amos B. Wyman, Millard D. York, Menden Younge.

As the quota of New York State was filled when Captain Cowan organized his company, when he left Batavia for Albany with his command, May 15, 1861, he acted entirely upon his own responsibility. Upon arriving at Albany, however, he succeeded in having his company assigned to the Fourteenth Regiment, commanded by Colonel James McQuade. Soon afterward the regiment proceeded to the front, being first stationed at Camp Douglas, where it received its arms and equipments. Upon leaving Camp Douglas, it proceeded to Miner's Hill, Va., where for some time it performed picket duty. March 16, 1862, it joined McClellan's army. It participated in several of the most important battles of the war. The complete list is as follows: Gaines's Mill, Turkey Bend, Malvern Hill, Antietam, Big Bethel, Chancellorsville, Second Bull Run, South Mountain, Hanover Court House, Mechanicsville, White Oak Swamp, Fredericksburg, Siege of Yorktown, Warrenton Junction, Snicker's Gap and Williamsburg.

Captain Walter B. Moore's company of the One Hundredth Regiment of Infantry was recruited principally among the inhabitants of Genesee county. The regiment, popularly known as the Second Regiment of the Eagle Brigade, commanded by Colonel James M. Brown, was mustered for three years' service. The Genesee county company consisted of the following:

Captain, Walter B. Moore; lieutenants, Melanethon Howell Topping, Martin S. Bogart; sergeants, Rodney Dexter, Leonard D. Howell, Edward S. Peck, Peabody Pratt, Myron P. Pierson; corporals, William Wheeler, William M. Thomson, Donald McPherson, Norman H. Meldrum, John C. Davis, Milo L. Olmstead; musicians, Joseph O. Price, Samuel Malters; wagoner, Willard Josslyn.

Privates, Irvin Austin, Robert Brears, Edward E. Boyd, Benjamin Bain, Henry C. Bolton, George N. Benjamin, Charles Clough, William N. Crosby, Edward P. Cooley, Benjamin C. Coon, Henry G. Copeland, Mortimer L. Daniels, Fritz Dato, Ord. M. Davis, Leonard R. Delamater, George Eberhart, Jacob Edgarton, George C. Fales, James Fox, Charles D. Foot, William H. French, Barney Growney, Theodore O. Geer, John Golland, Philip Geize, Henry M. Haskins, Albert Howell, John Jordan, Andrew Lynd, John J. McCall, George Moore, Timothy McMullin, Joseph Maud, Gordon B. Meldrum, John McPhail, Thomas McCann, Daniel McIntyre, Charles Meyrer, James McPherson, Mather Moore, William Newton, William Olmsted, John B. Out, Albert J. Pervorce, Joseph P. Pierson, John C. Presbry, Albert

Russell, Hiram Robison, Phillip Ryan, William P. Swift, James V. Swarthout, William Seeley, Chester F. Swift, George Swift, Peter Treehouse, Robert Trimbald, Lyman Taylor, Sanford C. Thomson, Peter Tracy, Louis H. Todd, Stephen Walkley, Augustus P. Weller, John G. Wicks, Abram L. Wood, Matthias Winkle, Albert U. Ward, James Walker.

The One Hundred and Fifth Regiment, N. Y. Volunteer Infantry, was recruited largely from among the residents of Genesee county. The names of the officers and men from Genesee county, as they appear upon the State muster rolls, follow:

Field and Staff.—Colonel, James M. Fuller, Le Roy; lieutenant-colonel, Henry S. Achillis, Le Roy; major, John W. Shedd, Le Roy; quartermaster, Charles Strong, Le Roy; surgeon, David C. Chamberlin, Le Roy; chaplain, Byron P. Russell, Le Roy; commissary sergeant, Jerome J. Shedd, Le Roy.

Company A.—Second lieutenant, George W. Dickey, Batavia; first sergeant, George H. Smith, Batavia; sergeant, Harrison Barber, Elba; corporals, Marony Shadbolt, Alexander; Clinton Brace, Batavia; George S. Winslow, Batavia; Leman T. Miner, Batavia; musician, Lonson R. Chaffee, Le Roy; privates, Samuel Avery, Frederick Bramsted, Edward Brewer, Jefferson Curtain, Lorenzo Croft, Alonzo Croft, Oliver N. Campbell, William Dingman, John Free, Alvirus D. Harrington, George F. Hundredmark, John Killen, Burr Kenyon, John Nash, Malcom G. Pettibone, Henry H. Ruland, Lewis Skinner, John Tyrrell, Henry E. Thomas, John Thomas, William Thomas, Isah Thomas, Abram Vanalstine, Andrew Whitney.

Company B.—Corporal, Merit White; privates, Philip S. Frost, Cornelius Ryan, William Rose.

Company C.—Corporal, Edward Thompson; privates, Joseph M. Cook, Charles H. Hodge, Peter A. McIntyre, Malcom McIntyre, Edward Mercer, Erasmus R. Stephens, William H. Thompson, Orrin Thompson, John B. Way.

Company D.—Sergeant, George W. Griffith, Le Roy; musicians, John Foster and Emogine Daniels, Le Roy; privates, Charles H. Miller, James Shine.

Company E.—Captain, George Babcock, Batavia; first lieutenant, Willis Benham, South Byron; second lieutenant, John J. White, Batavia; sergeants, Edwin J. Hyde and Lucius F. Rolfe, Bethany, Patrick H. Graham, Batavia; corporals, George W. Mather, Herbert Stacey and Edward Brennan, Batavia, James A. Sherwood, Byron, Clarence H. McCabe, Darien, Taylor Hart, Alexander, Newell J. Hamilton, Oakfield; teamster, Philbrook Holden, Batavia; privates, John F. Armstrong, William F. Albro, Chauncey Bowen, John Blake, John Barnard, Herrick C. Crocker, William E. Crane, Thomas Cady, Owen Gaskin, William H. Heal, Jacob Hagisht, Lawrence Henesey, Wesley Hawkins, James H. Hogan, Edwin S. Heath, John Keenan, James G. Lawton, Ezro Mann, John Moore, William Martin, Robert C. Odion, David Powell, James Parshall, William Riley, Michael Strieff, Levi Schrem, Joseph Scofield, Harlam Trumbull, James P. Thomas, James H. Turner, Franklin Terry, Isaac Wakeley, Isaac P. Wakeley.

Company F.—Corporal, William J. Deshon, Bethany; privates, Arthur Carmel, Thomas Close, Edward Hibbison, Oliver B. Olin, Sylvester Primmer, George Schaub.

Company G.—Private, Thomas Coady.

Company K.—Corporal, Sheldon I. Brown, Oakfield; privates, Frederick Ellris, George Fauset, John Johnson.

This regiment was mustered into the service of the United States in March, 1862, and consolidated with the Ninety-Fourth New York Volunteers in March, 1863. The regiment participated in the following battles: Cedar Mountain, Rappahannock Station, Thoroughfare Gap, Second Bull Run, Chantilly, South Mountain, Antietam and Fredericksburg. The names of the officers and their records follow:

Colonels:

James M. Fuller, commissioned April 10, 1862; resigned August 2, 1862.

Howard Carroll, commissioned August 2, 1862; not mustered as colonel.

John W. Shedd, commissioned October 10, 1862; mustered out at consolidation. March 17, 1863.

Lieutenant-Colonels:

Henry L. Achilles, commissioned March 24, 1862; resigned March 25, 1862.

Howard Carroll, commissioned April 10, 1862; died September 29, 1862, of wounds.

Richard Whiteside, commissioned October 10, 1862; mustered out at consolidation.

Majors:

John W. Shedd, commissioned April 10, 1862; promoted to colonel October 10, 1862.

Daniel A. Sharp, commissioned October 10, 1862; mustered out at consolidation.

Adjutants:

Daniel A. Sharp, commissioned April 10, 1862; promoted to major October 10, 1862.

John I. White, commissioned November 24, 1862; mustered out at consolidation.

Quartermasters:

Charles Strong, commissioned April 10, 1862; discharged August 12, 1862.

Jerome J. Shedd, commissioned December 17, 1862; transferred to Ninety-fourth Regiment.

Surgeon:

David C. Chamberlain, commissioned April 10, 1862; transferred to Ninety-fourth Regiment.

Assistant Surgeons:

James W. Casey, commissioned April 10, 1862; mustered out at consolidation.

John T. Brown, commissioned September 17, 1862; transferred to Ninety-fourth Regiment.

Chaplain:

Byron P. Russell, commissioned April 10, 1862; resigned September 12, 1862.

Captains:

Richard Whiteside, commissioned April 10, 1862; promoted to lieutenant-colonel October 10, 1862.

John C. Whiteside, commissioned November 19, 1862; transferred to Ninety-fourth Regiment.

James B. W. De Long, commissioned April 10, 1862; discharged October 1, 1862.

Charles F. Rodgers, commissioned November 24, 1862; transferred to Ninety-fourth Regiment; brevet major N. Y. V.

Henry E. Smith, commissioned April 10, 1862; discharged October 13, 1862.

Thomas A. Steadman, commissioned November 19, 1862; mustered out at consolidation.

Isaac S. Tichenor, commissioned April 10, 1862; mustered out at consolidation; brevet colonel U. S. V.

George Babcock, commissioned April 10, 1862; discharged October 6, 1862.

Willis Benham, commissioned November 24, 1862; transferred to Ninety-fourth Regiment.

Abraham Moore, commissioned April 10, 1862; transferred to Ninety-fourth Regiment.

John McMahan, commissioned April 10, 1862; transferred to Ninety-fourth Regiment.

Patrick W. Bradley, commissioned April 10, 1862; mustered out at consolidation.

Thomas Purcell, commissioned April 10, 1862; discharged September 17, 1862.

Joseph E. Conway, commissioned December 23, 1862; not mustered as captain.

Salah J. Wilber, commissioned April 10, 1862; discharged January 16, 1863.

First Lieutenants:

John C. Whiteside, commissioned April 10, 1862; promoted to captain November 19, 1863.

Benjamin Whiteside, commissioned December 22, 1862; transferred to Ninety-fourth Regiment.

Charles F. Rodgers, commissioned April 10, 1862; promoted to captain November 24, 1862.

Frederick J. Massey, commissioned November 24, 1862; transferred to Ninety-fourth Regiment.

Thomas A. Steadman, commissioned April 10, 1862; promoted to captain November 19, 1862.

John De Graff, commissioned November 24, 1862; not mustered as first lieutenant.

Horace D. Bennett, commissioned April 10, 1862; dismissed October 17, 1862.

Augustus Field, commissioned December 22, 1862; transferred to Ninety-fourth Regiment.

Willis Benham, commissioned April 10, 1862; promoted to captain November 24, 1862.

Lucius F. Rolfe, commissioned February 20, 1863; mustered out at consolidation; brevet captain N. Y. V.

William Clark, commissioned April 10, 1862; discharged September 12, 1862.

William Knowles, commissioned November 24, 1862; transferred to Ninety-fourth Regiment.

Dennis Graham, commissioned April 10, 1862; discharged October 9, 1862.

Isaac Doolittle, commissioned October 30, 1862; transferred to Ninety-fourth Regiment.

David C. Smith, commissioned April 10, 1862; resigned November 28, 1862.

George W. Connelly, commissioned February 19, 1863; not mustered as first lieutenant.

Michael McMullen, commissioned April 10, 1862; mustered out at consolidation.

David Gould, jr., commissioned April 10, 1862; resigned July 12, 1862.

Eli D. Woodworth, commissioned July 21, 1862; mustered out at consolidation.

Second Lieutenants:

George W. Dickey, commissioned April 10, 1862; discharged September 10, 1862.

Thomas Burrows, commissioned December 22, 1862; transferred to Ninety-fourth Regiment.

Frederick J. Massey, commissioned April 10, 1862; promoted to first lieutenant November 24, 1862.

Charles T. Mesler, commissioned December 22, 1862, transferred to Ninety-fourth Regiment.

John De Graff, commissioned April 10, 1862; missing since December 13, 1862.

James H. Bushnell, commissioned December 22, 1862; mustered out at consolidation.

Augustus Field, commissioned April 10, 1862; promoted to first lieutenant December 22, 1862.

Oscar F. Hawkins, commissioned December 22, 1862; transferred to Ninety-fourth Regiment.

John J. White, commissioned April 10, 1862; promoted to adjutant November 24, 1862.

Lucius F. Rolfe, commissioned November 24, 1862; promoted to first lieutenant February 20, 1862.

William Knowles, commissioned April 10, 1862; promoted to first lieutenant November 24, 1862.

Edwin A. Dayton, commissioned December 22, 1862; transferred to Ninety-fourth Regiment.

Isaac Doolittle, commissioned April 10, 1862; promoted to first lieutenant October 30, 1862.

George W. Connelly, commissioned December 22, 1862; mustered out at consolidation.

John Hayes, commissioned February 10, 1863; not mustered.

Joseph E. Conway, commissioned April 10, 1862; mustered out at consolidation.

George French, commissioned December 22, 1862; not mustered.

Charles C. Buckley, commissioned April 10, 1862; killed in action at Antietam, Md., September 17, 1862.

Garwin Longmair, commissioned January 31, 1863; not mustered.

Eli D. Woodworth, commissioned April 10, 1862; promoted to first lieutenant July 21, 1862.

George Wilbur, commissioned July 21, 1862; mustered out at consolidation.

The One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Regiment of New York Veterans was recruited largely from Genesee county. It was organized at Lockport, to serve three years, and was mustered into the service of the United States as an infantry regiment August 22, 1862. In February, 1863, it was changed from infantry to heavy artillery and designated as the Eighth N. Y. Heavy Artillery. It belonged to the Second Army Corps.

Two additional companies were organized for this regiment in Janu-

ary, 1864. The entire organization was raised in the counties of Genesee, Niagara and Orleans, comprising the Twenty-ninth Senate district. Companies G, H, I and K were transferred to the Fourth New York Artillery June 4, 1865. Companies L and M were transferred to the Tenth New York Volunteer Infantry, and the remaining six companies were mustered out June 5, 1866, in accordance with orders from the War Department. This regiment participated in the following battles, according to the official report of the adjutant-general of the State of New York: Spottsylvania, Tolopotomoy, Cold Harbor, North Anna, Petersburg, Strawberry Plains, Deep Bottom, Ream's Station and Boydton Road. The casualties of this regiment during the campaign which closed with Lee's surrender, were officially reported at 1,171 officers and men. As far as can be learned the following is a list of the Genesee county members of this regiment.

Major.—James M. Willett.

Company G.—Captain Elbridge T. Sherwin; lieutenants, J. R. Cooper, Orrin C. Parker; sergeants, John H. Nichols, John F. Hutton, John J. Thomas, James W. Young, George Ford; corporals, J. D. Safford, Lewis Teller, Wm. H. Bennett, M. M. Kendall, Peter Welch, W. W. Burton, M. Manahan, Thomas Cuthbert, James H. Horton, Peter Barber; musicians, M. McNamara, Joseph H. Horton; artificer, John G. Foster.

Privates.—Albert Amidon, John Adams, Nelson F. Bowen, Wm. A. Burris, Charles Brooks, John Bisher, H. L. Bennett, Charles Buell, L. C. Briggs, M. Birmingham, Wm. Brower, Charles Collins, James H. Charles, Christopher Cooper, Wm. Cleveland, George A. Cole, J. Cook, J. Donnigan, L. C. Dorman, A. E. Darrow, A. J. Denham, Anthony Davis, Delos Eddy, Nicholas Felter, Harry Fernerstein, Edward W. Flanders, Charles H. Fuller, George A. Fuller, Peter Fowldin, Frank Gleaser, Warner Howe, Henry Helfman, Wm. Hutton, Christopher Johnson, Henry Johnson, Lyman C. Kendall, Wm. H. Kendall, John Kimmerling, Daniel W. Kinnie, Wm. Morford, Norman Martin, Moses Millington, Peter McDermid, Daniel McDermid, Charles W. McCarthy, Cain Mahaney, Joseph Murdock, Peter Metzler, George Metzler, S. Myres, J. McLaughlin, John Munz, George Merlan, Conrad Merlan, Abram Norris, Van A. Pratt, Robert Peard, Wm. J. Pindar, M. S. Parker, F. W. Rice, Fernando Robbins, Charles H. Rice, Nathaniel Rowan, Wm. H. Ship, John J. Sherman, Wm. Smith, Devolson Smith, Henry Thomas, Joseph Thompson, George W. Thomas, Lewis Van Dyke, G. H. Van Alstine, Reuben Van Wart, S. A. Wilson, W. W. Wyman, W. Ward, W. P. Wright, Joseph Willett, Leroy Williams, N. W. Wakenan, Wm. Wood, R. H. Waite, Richard Welch.

Those recruited and sent on after the regiment had gone to the front were:

F. A. Altmeyer, John W. Amlong, N. F. Bowen, William N. Barton, Mark Bossard, Joseph Bongordon, John W. Babcock, A. J. Bennett, M. F. Bowe, John Brown, William Boehme, W. H. Bennett, Peter Barber, P. Colson, Henry Conklin, G. R. Cochran,

John Camp, Hibbard Chase, John Collins, James B. Clark, Patrick Collins, Daniel Dibble, Hugh Duffy, C. M. Dodge, Robert Denham, M. W. Elston, Abram Elston, Robert A. Erwin, Lawrence Flynn, Christopher Follett, K. B. Finley, Matthew Gleaser, J. M. Gilson, Charles C. Gilson, George F. Jones, Ezra Kirby, James Moore, John McNamara, Virgil Marsh, Hiram Marsh, A. J. Mahew, F. B. Maynard, N. A. Mitchell, M. Manion, N. Martin, Charles Nichols, R. Ovendan, Thomas E. Peard, John Perkins, George W. Parshall, D. M. Pannell, M. W. Parker, George Perry, W. O. Robinson, John Reed, Charles Sanford, J. B. D. Sawtell, Martin Steves, William N. Smith, Jacob M. Smith, Joseph Steffin, Horatio Thomas, John Thomas, Cassimere Thomas, O. Timmerson, N. Truesdall, Seth J. Thomas, Thomas Wilson. John Washchow, Albert Wilber, Rowley Wilson, Luke White, Edwin Wade, C. M. Whitney, J. Walsh, J. M. Wiggins, F. F. Waterman, E. A. Perrin, Silas Smith.

Company H.—Captain, Stephen Connor; lieutenants, George Wiard, J. H. Robson, W. H. Raymond, Archibald Winnie; sergeants, Henry Bickford, W. H. Roberson, William Grant, Louis Mather, Stephen Vail, O. E. Babcock, A. W. Aldrich, R. T. Hunt; corporals, E. P. Cowles, Charles Cox, E. J. Winslow, A. M. Allen, C. Chamberlain, William Jones, W. H. Fidinger, W. H. Griffin, E. A. Whitman, Joseph Webber, H. B. Salisbury, L. H. Robinson; musicians, C. D. Davis, Henry C. Ward; artificers, F. Krager, W. Cole; wagoner, R. Crosby.

Privates.—Orrin Allen, Arthur Allen, Ed. Anthony, Frank Anthony, Thomas Anthony, Henry Anthony, J. O. Aldridge, H. L. Austin, Albert Algo, J. Armidick, D. H. Bailey, F. Burgomaster, J. K. Brown, H. E. Brooks, J. C. Beach, Ira Baker, Henry Britton, James Bush, John S. Barber, W. R. Crook, Eli Cope, J. M. Cook, J. W. Chappel, Joseph Cheney, Robert Caple, P. Carlton, Robert Conroy, Edward Dyer, Alvin Dyer, Ferdinand Dorf, H. E. Duell, Charles Derby, Frank Derson, M. T. Bailey, N. J. Eaton, William Fenner, Daniel Fenner, Irvine Fenner, Leon Feller, N. Frenberger, C. Foster, J. C. Fidinger, A. J. Frayer, J. E. Friesman, W. B. Graham, Jacob Gleaser, R. L. Gunmaer, W. J. Gregg, John C. Gray, G. A. Haight, J. E. Haight, Sam Haight, G. Z. Howard, J. B. Hescoek, J. D. Henderson, S. B. Holmes, James Heal, Robert Heal, Jonas Holmes, John Hix, J. W. Hildun, Charles Havens, E. G. Havens, F. M. Harden, O. S. Holcomb, F. Johnson, D. V. Johnson, Frank Jones, W. S. Joslyn, H. D. Johns, Thomas Johns, Daniel Johns, F. A. Kenyon, W. P. Kidder, J. W. Kasson, B. R. Lamkins, Fred Lord, C. Laieur, D. E. Lamphear, William Lewis, James Lighbody, Charles Lilly, J. D. Mason, W. J. Moore, J. K. Merrill, W. A. McMillan, N. N. Morse, Pat Murphy, H. D. Myers, J. McDaniels, J. McAllister, W. H. Mattison, J. Mahannah, A. T. McCracken, Byron Murdock, W. L. Norton, Alfred Riker, G. W. Reynolds, John Radford, A. E. Spaulding, Paul Stevens, D. Sherman, Festus Stone, H. T. Sautell, Moore Smith, W. I. Skidmore, A. V. Simmons, H. F. Snook, Arba Shaw, J. Spaulding, H. Suits, Daniel Suits, H. C. Searls, M. Sutfin, Thomas Steele, H. C. Timby, Samuel Throop, George Thomas, M. O. Tyrrel, E. Tibbitts, S. D. Tuttle, W. B. Tallman, B. F. Tallman, H. L. Van Dresser, M. L. Watson, J. A. Wall, Robert Walker, W. M. Walker, John H. Weaver, B. F. Wood, James W. Wood, Julius Wies, Jacob Wies, Thomas Warner, Warren West, J. H. Williamson, Edson Weed, E. G. Webster, J. M. Warren, Alpha Warson, N. H. Winslow, A. B. Ward, W. F. Young, Peter Stevens, John Shum, George Walker, J. M. Zimmerman.

Company I.—Captain, Alexander Gardner; lieutenants, M. M. Cook, S. R. Staf-

ford, E. R. Loomis, Edward Gillis; sergeants, Thomas J. Dean, Seth C. Hall, M. Duguid, M. Van Antwerp, J. B. Arnold, N. S. Nier, John P. Thomas, E. H. Norton; corporals, J. R. Perry, J. H. Taggart, L. A. Clark, S. J. Feagles, E. B. Randall, W. H. Elwell, Marcus Wilcox, Thomas Houston, Charles Pindar, Fred. Walter, W. L. Benedict, Orville Bannister; musicians, W. F. Osborne, George W. Lower; artificers, George Kelley, W. F. Perkins; wagoner, W. H. Miller.

Privates.—J. D. Ames, James Agett, jr., James Avery, W. Allen, A. C. Bushman, John Byzn, James Byzu, Leonard Bland, J. F. Bell, J. B. Beardsley, C. Cook, Fred Cook, Joseph Cook, Joseph Cook, 2d, John Cook, Ebenezer Cook, D. Chamberlain, H. A. Church, W. L. Calvert, Elias Chappell, H. T. Clark, Jerome Clark, Charles Carpenter, J. B. Curtis, Thomas Cauffield, G. J. Chandler, Peter Campbell, S. B. Doty, Albert De Wolf, W. H. Dayton, A. K. Damon, F. Eberhardt, Fidelo Eddy, A. Etherefington, John Fulton, W. H. Fuller, W. L. Farr, Sylvester Farr, F. H. Fordham, F. Furey, John Folk, W. H. H. Gillett, C. Gihhartt, Peter Gallagher, Nich. Gossie, W. H. Gordon, G. H. Holmes, George Heath, E. P. Hoyt, Sylvester Hoyt, John Houston, William Houston, E. N. Henderson, James Hunter, W. A. House, E. W. Herrick, D. Y. Hallock, W. H. Howell, Elmer Howell, Daniel Jones, E. M. Kline, John Kelley, Philip Lougle, Joseph Lougle, H. J. W. Lewis, Seymour Lewis, Alonzo Lewis, P. McDonnell, William McGuire, M. H. McNeil, D. McMartin, B. F. McHenry, P. Mingus, Michael Mahan, Alfred Murdock, Dwight Mann, John Monroe, Nicholas Nowe, Alonzo Nichols, F. H. Olmsted, W. D. Perkins, J. B. Palmer, Lewis Payne, S. A. Pease, George Phillips, D. Russell, Robert Reid, Ashley Randall, E. P. Ross, A. J. Reibling, T. C. Rawson, R. E. Robertson, W. W. Stamp, Ed. Stamp, Ed. Sharp, William Sharp, F. A. Shipley, J. A. Sherwood, J. M. Sherwood, L. K. Spafford, E. D. Shader, Delos Shattuck, James Sifert, Almon Secor, Ed. Strouch, Riley Stevens, Alexander Shaw, S. L. M. Stafford, Emory M. Tone, J. A. Tone, John Thomas, Amos Topliff, H. W. Trobridge, A. E. Townsend, A. N. Van Antwerp, William Wayman, J. W. Wilson, John Walter, H. A. Williams, Harry Willis, Joel Willis, John Woltz, Charles Wooliver, E. A. White, F. C. Waltby, E. B. Clark, C. S. Holbrook, J. H. Hoyt, John Shipley, W. H. Thompson, A. R. Terry, G. W. Terry, J. E. Young.

Company L.—Captain, S. Dexter Ludden; lieutenants, Hiram H. Van Dake, George H. Robertson, W. L. Totten; sergeants, Darwin L. Fellows, E. T. Forman, W. O. Bartholomew, E. H. Ewell, Joseph Shaw, C. A. Whipple, Edward Bannister, W. H. Hunn; corporals, D. K. Austin, Allen Buell, J. A. Clark, Robert Chapple, James Drain, Kirk Ewell, Harrison Ferguson, E. F. Ives, G. W. Kendall, George Metzger, William Page, Edward Williams; musicians, Julius Kassler, William Kisor; artificers, G. A. Barner, Loren Hedger; wagoner, Eugene Plumley.

Privates.—W. H. Anderson, P. Anthony, N. Armstrong, J. Babcock, Charles G. Ball, Samuel Barnes, William Battersby, Joseph Bloedt, M. Buck, O. S. Burgess, D. W. Burleigh, George Caener, A. E. Carpenter, C. B. Carpenter, J. S. Carpenter, E. L. Carpenter, W. T. Chapman, James H. Childs, O. A. Churchill, W. H. Clancey, Chauncey Clark, Lewis Clark, James Conway, James Courtney, William Craig, I. S. Cross, Orrin Crocker, M. M. Cummings, H. V. Day, D. M. Dean, E. M. Doty, A. J. Drake, Thomas Duffy, Harley Dunham, James Ellis, M. Filkins, James Fluker, G. W. Freelove, W. M. Fuller, Robert Gibson, C. N. Goodenow, G. W. Gould, E. J. Stratton, H. N. Goodenow, D. P. Goodrich, David Greening, Adam Grile, Charles

Hale, S. Hamilton, John Hersch, John G. Hersch, John Hewitt, Thomas Hellman, W. H. H. Holden, R. D. Holley, Edwin Hoops, C. A. Howland, Ira Howland, W. R. Howland, Riley Ingalsbe, Joel B. Jewett, Jefferson Judd, W. M. Kendall, Alfred Keyser, Henry Knapp, E. G. Moulton, John Kunst, Lewis Kraft, William Lewis, A. W. Lingfield, Mortimer Lingfield, Charles Loomis, O. D. Lyman, L. D. Mapes, Morris Marquot, W. C. McCabe, Daniel McMullen, Morris McMullen, M. Myers, Stephen Myers, Charles Mertz, Caleb Miller, James Morton, William Nixon, Dennis O'Connor, H. Z. Owen, Isaac Page, F. G. Passmore, R. H. Perkins, A. D. Petrie, G. W. R. Pettibone, Harris Phillips, E. P. Pierce, F. Prescott, William Radley, Frank Reinhart, E. H. Rich, E. Robinson, Wesley Robinson, George Rose, E. K. Sage, Frank Sage, I. H. Sanford, Ira Smith, Joseph Sorrell, H. R. Stevens, M. B. Stevens, John Thomas, George Totterdale, D. C. Tracey, C. D. Vickery, George Walker, Tooker Walker, W. H. Walker, H. I. Wallace, H. C. Warner, William Welch, E. Wentworth, L. Whipple, E. G. Wurtz, Charles Youngs.

The following is a list of officers who served in the regiment, with the dates of their commission, and their promotion, discharge, dismissal, transfer, or death:

Colonels:

Peter A. Porter, commissioned September 10, 1862; killed in action at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, 1864.

Willard W. Bates, commissioned June 14, 1864; not mustered.

James M. Willett, commissioned July 12, 1864; discharged January 14, 1865.

Joel B. Baker, commissioned January 30, 1864; transferred to the Tenth N. Y. Infantry June 4, 1865.

Lieutenant Colonels:

Willard W. Bates, commissioned August 18, 1862; died June 25, 1864, of wounds received in action.

James M. Willett, commissioned June 14, 1864; promoted to colonel July 12, 1865.

Lawrence Kipp, commissioned June 13, 1864; declined.

Joel B. Baker, commissioned January 13, 1865; promoted to colonel January 30, 1865.

Joseph W. Holmes, commissioned January 30, 1865; mustered out with regiment June 5, 1865.

Majors:

James M. Willett, commissioned September 10, 1862; promoted to lieutenant-colonel June 14, 1864.

Joel B. Baker, commissioned June 17, 1864; promoted to lieutenant-colonel January 13, 1865.

S. Dexter Ludden, commissioned January 17, 1865; mustered out with regiment.

Edwin L. Blake, commissioned February 10, 1864; died June 19, 1864, of wounds received in action.

Joseph W. Holmes, commissioned September 14, 1864; promoted to lieutenant-colonel January 30, 1865.

James Low, jr., commissioned January 30, 1865; mustered out with regiment.

Erastus M. Spaulding, (brevet lieutenant-colonel N. Y. Vols.), commissioned February 23, 1864; discharged December 10, 1864.

Henry M. Starr, commissioned December 22, 1864; mustered out with regiment.

Adjutant :

Edwin L. Blake, commissioned September 10, 1862; promoted to major February 10, 1864.

Quartermasters :

George B. Wilson, commissioned September 10, 1862; mustered out with regiment.

Franklin J. Fellows, commissioned May 10, 1865; not mustered (see second lieutenants).

Surgeons :

James M. Leet, commissioned September 10, 1862; resigned October 24, 1863.

Alonzo Churchill, commissioned November, 1863; mustered out with regiment.

Assistant Surgeons :

Henry C. Hill, commissioned September 10, 1862, discharged December 3, 1862.

Charles H. Pegg, commissioned March 19, 1863; discharged November 28, 1864.

Julius A. Freeman, commissioned January 31, 1865; not mustered.

Simon G. Place, commissioned March 22, 1865; mustered out with regiment.

Richmond S. Hayes, commissioned September 10, 1862; resigned June 7, 1863.

John W. Freeman, commissioned June 24, 1863; discharged February 23, 1864.

William A. Wiser, commissioned February 23, 1864; discharged May 7, 1864.

Francis P. Casey, commissioned May 11, 1864; mustered out with regiment.

Chaplains :

Gilbert De La Matyr, commissioned September 10, 1862; discharged January 9, 1865.

Joshua Cooke, commissioned April 6, 1865; transferred to Tenth N. Y. Infantry.

Captains :

Erastus M. Spaulding, commissioned September 10, 1862; promoted to major February 22, 1864.

Henry M. Starr, commissioned February 23, 1864; promoted to major December 23, 1864.

Samuel K. Green, commissioned December 22, 1864; mustered out with regiment.

Joel B. Baker, commissioned September 10, 1862; promoted to major June 17, 1864.

James Low, jr., commissioned August 22, 1864; promoted to major January 30, 1865.

David L. Pitcher, commissioned January 30, 1865; mustered out with regiment.

Riley M. Tinkham, commissioned September 10, 1862; resigned July 8, 1863.

George A. Hoyt, commissioned August 17, 1863; died July 5, 1864, of wounds received in action.

George D. Church, commissioned July 27, 1864; discharged December 2, 1864.

George H. Robertson, commissioned March 30, 1865; transferred to 10th N. Y. Infantry.

James Maginnis, commissioned September 10, 1862; killed in action at Ream's Station, Va., August 25, 1864.

Morris R. Blodgett, commissioned October 31, 1864; not mustered (see first lieutenants).

Joseph W. Holmes, commissioned September 10, 1862; promoted to major September 14, 1864.

Roderick Baldwin, commissioned September 16, 1864; not mustered (see first lieutenants).

Stephen R. Stafford, (brevet major U. S. V.), commissioned December 22, 1864; mustered out with regiment.

William J. Hawkins, commissioned September 10, 1862; died June 24, 1864, of wounds received in action.

Samuel Sully, commissioned July 16, 1864; not mustered (see first lieutenants).

Eli S. Nichols, commissioned November 30, 1864; mustered out with regiment.

Elbridge T. Sherwin, commissioned September 10, 1862; died July 30, 1864, of disease, at City Point, Va.

John R. Cooper, commissioned August 12, 1864; transferred to 10th N. Y. Infantry.

Stephen Connor, commissioned September 10, 1862; discharged October 17, 1864.

George Wiard, commissioned October 31, 1864; not mustered (see first lieutenant).

Archibald Winne, commissioned March 25, 1865; not mustered (see first lieutenant).

Samuel B. Dismore, commissioned May 10, 1865; transferred to 10th N. Y. Infantry.

Alexander Gardner, commissioned September 10, 1862; killed in action at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, 1864.

Marshall N. Cook, commissioned June 21, 1864; mustered out with regiment.

James B. Pratt, commissioned September 10, 1862; discharged October 20, 1864.

Simon P. Webster, commissioned October 31, 1864; mustered out with regiment.

S. Dexter Ludden, commissioned February 23, 1864; promoted to major January 17, 1865.

Thomas Low, commissioned January 26, 1865; died April 25, 1865, of wounds received in action.

George B. Wilson, commissioned May 10, 1865; not mustered (see first lieutenants).

Hazard A. Sheldon, commissioned March 15, 1864; discharged October 28, 1864.

Orrin C. Parker, commissioned November 30, 1864; mustered out with regiment.

First Lieutenants:

Henry M. Starr, commissioned September 10, 1862; promoted to captain February 23, 1864.

Judson Thomas, commissioned March 15, 1864; discharged September 23, 1864.

DeWitt C. Wickham, commissioned November 20, 1864; mustered out with regiment.

Edwin L. Blake, commissioned September 10, 1862; appointed adjutant September 10, 1862.

Samuel K. Green, commissioned February 10, 1864; promoted to captain December 22, 1864.

Thomas Mayberry, commissioned December 22, 1864; mustered out with regiment.

James Low, jr., commissioned September 10, 1862; promoted to captain August 22, 1864.

David L. Pitcher, commissioned August 22, 1864; promoted to captain January 30, 1865.

Henry A. Botsford, commissioned March 13, 1865; transferred to Tenth N. Y. Infantry.

Eli S. Nichols, commissioned February 10, 1864; promoted to captain November 30, 1864.

Romeo G. Burnes, commissioned November 30, 1864; mustered out with regiment.

George A. Hoyt, commissioned September 10, 1862; promoted to captain August 17, 1863.

Charles H. West, jr., commissioned August 17, 1863; killed in action at Ream's Station, Va., August 25, 1864.

William B. Gardner, commissioned September 10, 1862; resigned March 14, 1864.

George W. Webster, commissioned March 30, 1864; dismissed December 12, 1864.

William M. Sloan, commissioned December 30, 1864; not mustered.

Morris R. Blodgett, commissioned February 10, 1864; mustered out with regiment.

John E. Owens, commissioned October 31, 1864; dismissed December 12, 1864.

Michael Metzger, commissioned March 13, 1865; transferred to Tenth N. Y. Infantry.

Roderick Baldwin, commissioned September 10, 1862; discharged December 5, 1864.

Joseph Willett, commissioned August 22, 1864; not mustered (see second lieutenants).

Henry R. Swan, commissioned February 10, 1864; died June 14, 1864, of disease, at Cold Harbor, Va.

Frank H. Boyd, commissioned July 16, 1864; dismissed October 10, 1864.

Charles H. Kugel, commissioned October 31, 1864; mustered out with regiment.

Samuel Sully, commissioned September 10, 1862; discharged November 5, 1864.

Lewis C. Hosmer, commissioned October 31, 1864; not mustered (see second lieutenants).

William H. Wescott, commissioned March 13, 1865; mustered out with regiment.

George W. Rector, commissioned February 10, 1864; died October 29, 1864, of wounds received in action at Hatcher's Run, Va.

William Leggett, commissioned November 30, 1864; mustered out with regiment.

John R. Cooper, commissioned September 10, 1862; promoted to captain August 12, 1864.

John Nichols, commissioned August 12, 1864; not mustered (see second lieutenants).

John D. Safford, jr., commissioned October 31, 1864; mustered out with regiment.

Owen C. Parker, commissioned February 10, 1864; promoted to captain November 30, 1864.

James W. Young (brevet captain U. S. A.), commissioned November 30, 1864; mustered out with regiment.

Martin W. Roberts, commissioned September 10, 1862; discharged December 2, 1862.

George Wiard, commissioned December 17, 1862; mustered out with regiment.

Joseph Clapsaddle, commissioned March 13, 1865; transferred to Tenth N. Y. Infantry.

Joseph H. Robson, commissioned February 10, 1864; discharged October 28, 1864, on account of wounds received at Cold Harbor.

E. H. Taylor, commissioned March 13, 1865; transferred to Tenth N. Y. Infantry.

Marshall N. Cook, commissioned September 10, 1862; promoted to captain June 21, 1864.

Edwin R. Loomis, commissioned June 21, 1864; not mustered (see second lieutenants).

Stephen R. Stafford, commissioned February 10, 1864; promoted to captain December 22, 1864.

Seth C. Hall, commissioned December 22, 1864; mustered out with regiment.

George D. Church, commissioned September 10, 1862; promoted to captain July 27, 1864.

Archibald Winne, commissioned September 16, 1864; mustered out with regiment.

Le Roy Williams, commissioned March 30, 1865; transferred to the Tenth New York Infantry.

Simon P. Webster, commissioned February 10, 1864; promoted to captain October 31, 1864.

Ellis P. Wolcott, commissioned October 31, 1864; mustered out with regiment.

George H. Robertson, commissioned February 23, 1864; promoted to captain October 31, 1864.

William H. Raymond, commissioned March 30, 1865; mustered out with regiment.

Hiram H. Van Dake, commissioned February 23, 1864; discharged September 6, 1864; recommissioned.

Darwin L. Fellows, commissioned October 31, 1864; not mustered; killed in action.

Henry H. Van Dake, commissioned December 8, 1864; not mustered.

Erwin H. Ewell, commissioned January 28, 1865; mustered out with regiment.

Frederick R. Derrick, commissioned March 15, 1864; discharged October 27, 1864.

Walter J. Collins, commissioned November 30, 1864; mustered out with regiment.

Adelbert G. Clapp, commissioned March 15, 1864; died November 21, 1864, of wounds received in action.

William H. Crowley, commissioned January 19, 1865; mustered out with regiment.

George B. Wilson, not commissioned, but name on the records of the War Department; mustered out with regiment.

Second Lieutenants:

Charles H. West jr., commissioned September 10, 1862; promoted to first lieutenant August 17, 1863.

George N. Webster, commissioned August 17, 1863; promoted to first lieutenant March 30, 1864.

Robert Glass, commissioned March 30, 1864; died July 15, 1864, of wounds received in action.

Joseph Clapsaddle, commissioned October 31, 1864; promoted to first lieutenant March 13, 1865.

Edgar B. Lewis, commissioned March 13, 1865; mustered out with regiment.

Judson Thomas, commissioned January 18, 1864; promoted to first lieutenant March 15, 1864.

Samuel B. Dinsmore, commissioned March 15, 1864; promoted to captain May 10, 1865.

A. J. Budlong, commissioned May 13, 1865; not mustered.

Eli S. Nichols, commissioned September 10, 1862; promoted to first lieutenant February 10, 1865.

Fayette S. Brown, commissioned February 17, 1864; killed in action at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, 1864.

Romeo G. Burnes, commissioned January 21, 1864; promoted to first lieutenant November 30, 1864.

Franklin J. Fellows, commissioned December 7, 1861; mustered out with regiment.

Daniel L. Pitcher, commissioned February 17, 1864; promoted to first lieutenant August 22, 1864.

William H. Crowley, commissioned August 22, 1864; promoted to first lieutenant January 19, 1865.

Eugene C. Fuller, commissioned January 16, 1865; mustered out with regiment.

Nathan J. Cornell, commissioned September 10, 1862; resigned November 6, 1862.

William D. Lord, commissioned November 24, 1862; resigned June 27, 1863.

Samuel K. Green, commissioned August 16, 1863; promoted to first lieutenant February 10, 1864.

* John Safford, jr., commissioned August 22, 1864; promoted to first lieutenant October 31, 1864.

James Young, commissioned October 31, 1864; promoted to first lieutenant November 30, 1864.

Le Roy Williams, commissioned November 30, 1864; promoted to first lieutenant March 30, 1865.

Eugene K. Sage, commissioned March 30, 1865; transferred to Tenth N. Y. Infantry.

Walter Collins, commissioned February 24, 1864; promoted to first lieutenant November 30, 1864.

Owen C. Hibbard, commissioned November 30, 1864; mustered out with regiment.

Morris R. Blodgett, commissioned September 10, 1862; promoted to first lieutenant February 10, 1864.

John E. Owens, commissioned February 17, 1864; dismissed December 12, 1864.

William A. George, commissioned October 31, 1864; transferred to Tenth N. Y. Infantry.

Arthur L. Chase, commissioned February 13, 1864; killed in action at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, 1864.

Charles B. Lacker, commissioned July 18, 1864; not mustered; discharged as enlisted man.

William Grant, commissioned November 30, 1864; mustered out with regiment.

Henry R. Swan, commissioned September 10, 1862; promoted to first lieutenant February 10, 1864.

Francis H. Boyd, commissioned February 17, 1864; promoted to first lieutenant July 16, 1864.

Charles H. Kugel, commissioned July 16, 1864; promoted to first lieutenant October 31, 1864.

Edward Taylor, commissioned November 30, 1864; promoted to first lieutenant March 13, 1865.

Charles T. Behan, commissioned May 13, 1865; transferred to Tenth N. Y. Infantry.

Ellis P. Wolcott, commissioned March 21, 1864; promoted to first lieutenant October 31, 1864.

William Wescott, commissioned October 31, 1864; promoted to first lieutenant March 13, 1865.

Reed Pierce, commissioned March 13, 1865; mustered out with regiment.

George W. Rector, jr., commissioned September 10, 1862; promoted to first lieutenant February 10, 1864.

Lewis C. Hosmer, commissioned February 17, 1864; discharged December 9, 1864.

Charles Moore, commissioned January 19, 1865; mustered out with regiment.

Archibald Winne, commissioned March 22, 1864; promoted to first lieutenant September 16, 1864.

William M. Sloan, commissioned September 16, 1864; promoted to first lieutenant December 30, 1864.

Samuel W. Waldo, commissioned March 13, 1865; mustered out with regiment.

Orrin C. Parker, commissioned September 10, 1862; promoted to first lieutenant February 10, 1864.

John Nichols, commissioned February 17, 1864; discharged September 22, 1864.

Melvin M. Kendall, commissioned August 12, 1864; not mustered.

Walter P. Wright, commissioned February 17, 1864; killed in action before Petersburg, Va., June 16, 1864.

Thomas Mayberry, commissioned February 23, 1864; promoted to first lieutenant December 22, 1864.

Samuel B. Butler, commissioned December 29, 1864; not mustered.

John G. Lacey, commissioned March 30, 1865; mustered out with regiment.

George Wiard, commissioned September 10, 1862; promoted to first lieutenant December 17, 1862.

Joseph H. Robson, commissioned December 17, 1862; promoted to first lieutenant February 10, 1864.

William H. Raymond, commissioned February 17, 1864; promoted to first lieutenant March 30, 1865.

William H. Bickford, commissioned July 16, 1864; died March 9, 1865, of disease, at Camp Parole, Annapolis, Md.

Myron H. Hale, commissioned March 30, 1865; mustered out with regiment.

Joseph W. Caldwell, commissioned March 3, 1864; killed in action at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, 1864.

De Witt C. Wickham, commissioned June 21, 1864; promoted to first lieutenant November 30, 1864.

Henry A. Botsford, commissioned November 30, 1864; promoted to first lieutenant March 13, 1865.

Myron Sherwood, commissioned March 3, 1865; mustered out with regiment.

Stephen R. Stafford, commissioned September 10, 1862; promoted to first lieutenant February 10, 1864.

Edwin R. Loomis, commissioned February 17, 1864; discharged April 12, 1865.

Joseph Dean, commissioned June 21, 1864; mustered out with regiment.

Edgar Gillis, commissioned February 17, 1864; discharged October 17, 1864.

Manfred Duguid, commissioned October 31, 1864; mustered out with regiment.

Simon P. Webster, commissioned September 10, 1862; promoted to first lieutenant February 10, 1864.

Thomas Westcott, commissioned February 17, 1864; discharged October 4, 1864.

Erwin H. Ewell, commissioned January 19, 1865; promoted to first lieutenant January 28, 1865.

Edward T. Forman, commissioned February 10, 1865; mustered out with regiment.
Wallace B. Hard, commissioned February 17, 1864; killed in action at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, 1864.

Ashley P. Hawkins, commissioned June 21, 1864; discharged January 25, 1865.

James M. Cook, commissioned March 13, 1865; mustered out with regiment.

William L. Totten, commissioned February 13, 1864; discharged January 14, 1865.

James M. Waite, commissioned February 13, 1865; mustered out with regiment.

Joseph M. Willett, commissioned February 23, 1864; died February 17, 1865, at Danville, Va.

William O. Bartholomew, commissioned August 22, 1864; mustered out with regiment.

Oliver M. Campbell, commissioned March 15, 1864; killed in action at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, 1864.

Michael Metzger, commissioned January 19, 1865; promoted to first lieutenant March 13, 1865.

Hosmer G. Curtiss, commissioned March 13, 1865; mustered out with regiment.

George W. Gladden, commissioned March 15, 1864; killed in action at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, 1864.

William H. Stearns, commissioned June 21, 1864; discharged January 20, 1865.

Augustus Riebling, commissioned March 30, 1865; mustered out with regiment.

Samuel Wilson, commissioned March 30, 1865; mustered out with regiment.

In February, 1864, this regiment was recruited to the maximum number, eighteen hundred and thirty-nine. The records of the department disclose the fact that the loss sustained at the battle of Cold Harbor was larger than that sustained by any other regiment in any battle of the war, with the single exception of a Maine artillery regiment. This interesting fact was published in one of the Century Magazine war articles. The "Eighth Heavy" contained far more Genesee county men than were enlisted in any other regiment, and its record is one of bravery and unflinching fidelity to duty.

The following from Genesee county were members of the Fifteenth N. Y. Cavalry Regiment:

Company E. — Quartermaster-sergeant, Noah B. Lincoln; sergeants, Thomas Gormley, William Hawkins; corporals, Franklin H. Wells, William Lake, John James, Thomas H. Scott, George W. Sherwood; saddler, William Cooper; privates, William Boughton, Franklin Busbee, Charles H. Butler, Melvin C. Dodge, Charles Duffner, Civilian Halbert, John Hayes, William Heal, Alonzo Heath, George Learman, Richmond Lilley, John Metzler, John P. Michels, Peter Michlian, Richard Oothoudt, Max Pagefall, Sylvester Primmer, Peter Sabel, William Smith, Frank Whitney.

The Fifteenth Regiment was organized at Syracuse to serve three years. The companies of which it was composed were raised in the counties of Genesee, Onondaga, Erie, Ontario, Orange, Oneida, Chau-

tauqua, Cattaraugus and Tompkins. It was mustered into the service of the United States from August 8, 1863, to January 14, 1864. It was consolidated with the Sixth New York Cavalry, June 17, 1865, the consolidated force being designated the Second New York Provisional Cavalry, which was mustered out of service August 9, 1865. The latter organization was in command of Colonel Charles L. Fitzhugh and Lieutenant-Colonel Harrison White.

Following is a list of the officers from Genesee county who served with the Fifteenth Cavalry, with the dates of their commissions, and their promotion, discharge, dismissal, transfer or death. The list is as nearly complete as can be gleaned from the existing records:

Lieutenant-Colonel.—Augustus I. Root, commissioned November 20, 1863; killed in action April 8, 1865.

Major.—George M. Ellicott, commissioned June 17, 1865; not mustered as major.

Adjutant.—Sidney Tuttle, commissioned November 20, 1863; resigned May 22, 1864.

Captain.—George M. Ellicott, commissioned November 20, 1862; discharged at consolidation.

First Lieutenants.—Ralph D. Short, commissioned November 20, 1863; died January 20, 1865. Edson Griffin, commissioned January 6, 1864, resigned January 7, 1865. Heman H. Griswold, commissioned August 26, 1864; not mustered; declined.

The Twenty-second New York Independent Battery was organized in Genesee county by Captain John D. Newman of Niagara county and mustered into the service of the State of New York at Lockport September 4, 1862. October 28 following it was mustered into the service of the United States at Elmira by Major A. T. Lee, and soon afterward all but seven members of the command were transferred to the Ninth New York Heavy Artillery, commanded by Colonel Joseph Welling and William H. Seward, jr. The officers and men when mustered into the United States services were:

Captain, John D. Newman; senior first lieutenant, Melanethon D. Brown, of Alexander; junior first lieutenant, D. D. W. Pringle, of Batavia; senior second lieutenant, Robert C. Worthington, of Bethany; junior second lieutenant, Edwin F. Clark; sergeants, James M. Waite, Francis N. Parrish, Asahel M. Abby, Daniel E. Waite, William I. Parrish, William E. Wright, John Oldswager and Josiah T. Crittenden; corporals, Hugh T. Peters, Edward F. Moulton, William H. Maltby, Thomas Walsh, Eugene B. Wing, Robert Fowles, Henry Nulty, Orville Thompson, John Connor, John D. Bartlett, George Brown and James G. Hatch; musicians, Charles Foster and Edson H. Pond; artificers, Levi T. Garrett, Henry Wood; guidon, William M. Moulton; stable sergeant, Edwin Lock; company clerk, George Avery; privates, Hezekiah Brown, William T. Barrett, E. J. Benton, John Bower, Seymour S. Brown, Thomas C. Barnard, C. W. Brown, Charles W. Bradley, Truman Bailey, jr., Miles

T. Brown, Isaac Bruett, Charles J. Cleveland, George T. Chase, Rowland Champion, John Carmel, John Cox, Alva N. Colt, James W. Case, Michael Carney, James Carney, Thomas Cook, Henry Connelly, Benjamin Cox, Zina W. Carter, Oran H. Conant, William B. Cole, Jerome Canfield, Dioclesian Covey, William H. Chappie, George D. Dodson, James Dunn, Earl A. Dodson, Sylvester Demary, Dennis Dibble, George Edwards, William R. Eddy, Elias Eastwood, James Emory, Orson J. Forbes, Robert Finley, Charles Fairfield, William Faber, Harmon Fitch, Ansel Ford, John E. Field, John Griffiths, George Gann, Cyrus A. Gowing, Charles R. Griffin, Paul Glor, Amos Humphrey, John Harmon, Ira E. Haight, Edward J. Hollenbeck, Archie Hollenbeck, John Hassett, David Hill, Henry Johnson, John L. Kingdon, Albert Knapp, Patrick Keating, Stephen R. King, James Kidder, Silas Knapp, John Kellner, Libbeus King, Henry L. Kieatzer, George B. Lawrence, Henry Lapp, Samuel Lathrop, Benjamin Lewis, Henry Leverington, James M. Lapp, Elias Lyons, Charles Loplowl, Thomas McManis, Marion F. Meredith, Jacob Moore, Elias Martin, David Milles, Albert H. Moulton, Archie McMillen, John Munt, Alexander McDonald, Angus McIntosh, Lucius A. Munger, Joseph Marsh, Moses Nichols, Michael O'Donnell, Robert Plant, Thomas W. Paden, James Porter, John J. Peard, Norman M. Putnam, George Rogers, Frederick Reichert, Mortimer Rich, Alonzo Rich, Ambrose Rich, Nathan E. Rumsey, Charles E. Smead, Henry Shafer, Gilbert Shader, David S. Spring, Edwin Shadbolt, John D. Shiller, Edsil Shaw, Charles A. Smith, Wallace M. Smith, Edward B. Smith, Stephen Thompson, Frederick Tanager, Homer L. Tisdale, Stephen Taylor, Henry Vishon, Charles Van Kuren, Frederick Vickers, Gilbert Wade, Jonah C. Wicker, John J. Warren, Edwin Ward, John Worthington, Warren West, Stephen T. Wing, William Welch, John W. Williams, Walter S. Wright and Christian Zwetsch.

The original company numbered one hundred and sixty-eight, seven of whom were transferred to the Billingshurst Battery. By reason of his mismanagement, Captain Newman was discharged April 18, 1863. Lieutenant Brown was discharged April 16, 1863, and Lieutenant Pringle October 28, 1864. Lieutenant Worthington resigned January 29, 1862. Lieutenant Clark was discharged September 4, 1862, never having reported for duty. The company served with the Ninth New York Heavy Artillery, as Company M, until June 25, 1865, when it was consolidated with the Second New York Artillery. After the discharge of Captain Newman the company was commanded by Captain Anson S. Wood, until the latter was promoted to major, when Captain William I. Parrish assumed command. Captain Parrish entered the company as a sergeant, and was promoted from one rank to another until April 4, 1864, when he received a commission as a captain. He remained in command of Company M until it was discharged from the service September 29, 1865. He was also brevet major of New York Volunteers.

This company fought in the following engagements: Cold Harbor, Petersburg, Monocacy, Charlestown, Second Winchester, Cedar Creek,

Second Petersburg, Sailor's Creek and Lee's surrender. During these battles the regiment was attached to the Second Brigade, Third Division and Sixth Army Corps. After the battle of Petersburg, June 22, 1864, the command was the color company of the regiment, remaining in this post of honor until the close of the war. At the battle of Cedar Creek Lieutenant John Oldswager was killed by a shell. He was a resident of the town of Alexander, and was the only officer in the company killed during the war. The number of men in the company who were killed was small, compared with the losses sustained by other companies; but the loss in wounded and prisoners was as large as that sustained by any other company in the regiment. Of the one hundred and sixty-eight men who left for the front but sixty-five were left in the command to be discharged at the close of the war.

The Twenty-fifth Independent Battery of Light Artillery was recruited in the counties of Genesee, Orleans and Niagara. It was mustered in at Lockport in September, 1862, went to New York the following December, and joined the forces of General Banks. The company sailed thence to Fortress Monroe, and from there to Ship Island, but was wrecked on the coast of Florida. The men were picked up by a Union gunboat and landed at Key West, and in January, 1863, sailed to New Orleans. The company participated in the siege of Port Hudson, the battle of Lafourche, and in the Red River campaign. In the spring of 1865 they went on the expedition to Mobile, and August 5 of that year were mustered out at Rochester. The Genesee county members of the battery were as follows:

Second Lieutenant, Irving D. Southworth; sergeant, Edgar A. Fisher, corporals, Aaron Hartwell, Henry C. Denton, John Kersch; privates, Rodney Alexander, Joseph Brill, Peter Busser, Lewis Beck, Albert Cook, John Clark, Peter Clench, James Darkin, Wallace W. Fisk, William R. Fisher, Harvey M. Graves, Addison Gates, Fred Hartwick, William J. Hemstreet, Charles Hartley, Charles A. Kendall, Peter Linn, Nathan Leonard, Arthur Little, James McMullen, Frank D. Murdock, Jacob Miller, Francis McCann, John Madagan, William Moss, Paul Notham, John Oberton, William J. Pike, Cunningham Primrose, Valentine Ricker, E. Fitch Rapp, John J. Snyder, William Sheldt, Patrick Sage, William Squires, Peter Tarnisch, William Willgin, Field B. Wright, William Walton, Henry Wall, John Wright, William Young.

The officers of the Twenty-fifth Battery and their records were as follows:

Captains:

John A. Grow, commissioned November 29, 1862; discharged August 19, 1864.

Irving D. Southworth, commissioned December 7, 1864; mustered out with battery.

First Lieutenants:

William H. Perry, commissioned November 29, 1862; resigned May 11, 1863.

Irving D. Southworth, commissioned December 19, 1863; promoted to captain December 7, 1864.

John C. Flanders, commissioned February 14, 1865; mustered out with battery.

Albert Cook, commissioned February 14, 1865; mustered out with battery.

Second Lieutenants:

Irving D. Southworth, commissioned November 29, 1862; promoted to first lieutenant December 19, 1863.

John C. Flanders, commissioned December 29, 1863; promoted to first lieutenant February 14, 1865.

James F. Emery, commissioned February 14, 1865; mustered out with battery.

David F. Burgess, commissioned December 6, 1862; discharged December 19, 1863.

David H. Parks, commissioned February 14, 1865; mustered out with battery.

The Forty-ninth Regiment, N. Y. Vol. Infantry, was organized at Albany to serve three years. The companies of which it was composed were raised in the counties of Genesee, Erie, Niagara and Chautauqua. It was mustered into the service of the United States from August 22 to September 30, 1861. The original members, excepting veterans, were mustered out on the expiration of term of service, and the regiment, composed of re-enlisted men and recruits, was retained in service until June 27, 1865, when they were mustered out. The Forty-ninth Regiment participated in the following battles: Drainesville, Yorktown, Williamsburg, Golding's Farm, Savage Station, White Oak Swamp, Malvern Hill, Crampton's Gap, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Marye's Heights, Salem Heights, Gettysburg, Rappahannock Station, Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, Fort Stevens, Opequan, Fisher's Hill and Cedar Creek.

The members of this regiment from Genesee county were Peter Thomas, Ferdinand Thomas, French W. Fisher, Joseph Mark, Sergeant Hare, Charles Hayden and Sergeant Slingerland. Of these, French W. Fisher rose from the ranks to second lieutenant; was promoted to first lieutenant September 30, 1864; was promoted to captain and commissioned May 17, 1865, but was not mustered as captain. He was afterward brevetted captain of United States Volunteers.

In addition to the organizations mentioned, Genesee county contributed men to the One Hundred and Fourth Regiment of Infantry. Unfortunately it is impossible at this late day to ascertain the names of those from this county who served in this command. The records in the office of the adjutant-general refer to this organization as follows:

“The One Hundred and Fourth Regiment, N. Y. Vol. Infantry, was organized at Albany to serve three years. The companies of which it was composed were raised in the counties of Genesee, Albany, Rensselaer, Livingston, Monroe and Steuben. The regiment was mustered into the service of the United States from October, 1861, to March, 1862. Upon the expiration of its term of service the original members, excepting veterans, were mustered out, and the organization, composed of veterans and recruits, was retained in service until July 17, 1865, when it was mustered out. The One Hundred and Fourth Regiment fought in the following battles: Cedar Mountain, Second Bull Run, South Mountain, Mine Run, Wilderness, Fredericksburg, Antietam, Chantilly, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, North Anna, Spottsylvania, Bethesda Church, Weldon Railroad and Petersburg.” The regiment was commanded by the following colonels, in the order given: John Rorbach, commissioned May 17, 1862; discharged October 21, 1862. Lewis C. Skinner, commissioned November 24, 1862; not mustered as colonel. Gilbert G. Prey, commissioned December 3, 1862; discharged March 3, 1865. John R. Strang, commissioned March 17, 1865; not mustered as colonel.

Among the other organizations which this county helped to fill were the following: Fifteenth Infantry, Twenty-sixth Infantry, One Hundred and Fortieth Infantry, Fourteenth Artillery, Nineteenth Battery, Second Mounted Rifles, Forty-ninth Infantry, One Hundred and Thirtieth Infantry, One Hundred and Thirty-sixth Infantry, Ninth Artillery, First Dragoons, Sixth Michigan Cavalry, Forty-fourth Infantry, Ninety-sixth Infantry, One Hundred and First Infantry, One Hundred and Thirty-ninth Infantry, One Hundred and Fifty-first Infantry, One Hundred and Sixtieth Infantry, Ninth Artillery, Thirty-Ninth Artillery, Thirty-first Connecticut Infantry, Twelfth Indiana Infantry, Twenty-fourth Wisconsin Infantry, Seventeenth U. S. Infantry, Sixteenth Infantry, One Hundred and Forty-Sixth Infantry, Third Cavalry, Fourteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Sixth U. S. Cavalry, Twentieth U. S. Colored Infantry, Seventh Ohio Infantry, Thirty-third Infantry, Ninety-fourth Infantry, One Hundred and Seventh Infantry, One Hundred and Eighty-eighth Infantry, Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, Sixty-fourth Illinois Infantry.

One of the most distinguished soldiers who served during the Civil war was Gen. Emory Upton, a native of the town of Batavia.¹ At the

¹ A sketch of the life and services of General Upton will be found elsewhere in this work.

battle of Winchester he commanded the Second Brigade of the First Division of the Sixth Army Corps. During the early part of the day there had been heavy skirmishing, and an advance was anticipated by the troops. Our soldiers were discouraged and disheartened, for they had been beaten repeatedly. Earthworks had been erected, behind which the Union soldiers lay in comparative security.

Orders were given for a general attack on the rebel line. Realizing the condition and feeling of the men, General Upton mounted his horse and, accompanied by his full staff, rode along the line. At every convenient point he stopped, dismounted, mingled freely with the men, and conversed with them in cheering tones, counseling economy in the use of ammunition, a liberal use of the bayonet, and a short, sharp and decisive fight when the bugle should sound the command to advance. His influence was magnetic. The stimulus he inspired among them was marked, and there was not a member of the command who did not feel better for the kindly admonition.

The charge which followed was stoutly resisted by the rebels. Every inch of the ground was stubbornly disputed for hours. Soon General Upton succeeded to the command of the division. He had been wounded in both legs by rebel bullets; but no sooner was he apprised of the condition of things than he directed the detailing of eight men from the ambulance corps and the procurement of a stretcher. On this he was at once carried to the front, and during the remainder of the engagement he was constantly at the line of battle directing the movement of the troops in person, with perfect calmness, though in the midst of a furious storm of shot and shell. He was then a young, graceful, dashing, handsome man, brave, quick in action, and greatly beloved by his troops. As he raised himself slightly on his elbow and darted his restless eyes over the scene of battle, giving his orders in quick, impetuous tones, he seemed to the soldiers like some chained lion, fretting and chafing because he could not dash into the midst of the conflict. History records the success of the Union troops in this engagement, but few of the published histories of the day note the fact that to General Upton was due that notable success of the Union arms. All day, until the eagle of victory perched upon the Stars and Stripes, he remained upon the field, his presence fortifying the troops, and his ringing voice, heard above the din of battle, lending additional enthusiasm to their efforts.

An endeavor has been made to give, in this chapter, as complete as

possible a list of the inhabitants of Genesee county who fought in the war of the Rebellion. It is a fact deeply to be regretted that the records in the office of the adjutant-general of the State of New York do not give the places of residence of those mustered into the service of the country for this war. In 1865 a law was passed directing the town authorities throughout every State in the Union to make a complete record of the soldiers sent from each town. The law was generally ignored throughout New York State, and the record made in Genesee county is very incomplete and unsatisfactory. In all probability an authentic and complete list of Genesee county soldiers can never be compiled. This chapter is founded upon the official reports as found in the office of the adjutant-general at Albany and in the office of the clerk of Genesee county. It is authentic, though not as nearly complete as would have been possible had the various town officers holding office in 1865 and 1866 acted in accordance with the law of 1865 referred to.

CHAPTER XIV.

From the Close of the Civil War to the Present Time—Establishment of the Modern Manufacturing Industries of the County—Banks and Banking Since the War—Le Roy and Its Numerous Manufactures—Mills and Milling—The Malting Industry—The Salt Wells of Le Roy and Pavilion and Their Development—The Great Marl Bed in Bergen—Disastrous Fires in Bergen, Oakfield and Le Roy—Organization of the Genesee County Pioneer Association—Building of the Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburg Railway—Bergen Again Laid Waste by Fire—The West Shore Railroad—The Lehigh Valley Railroad—Fatal Railroad Accidents—Remains of a Mastodon Unearthed Near Batavia—Genesee County's Participation in the War With Spain—Fatal Accident on the New York Central Railroad Near Corfu—Churches Established in Genesee County During This Period.

The condition of the inhabitants of Genesee county at the conclusion of the war of the Rebellion was wretched in the extreme. Business of most kinds was either at a standstill, or had been annihilated. The few industries of the county which had been spared were struggling feebly to continue their existence. Others apparently were dead past all hopes of resurrection. Money was scarce, provisions were costly, credit in most cases was ruined or greatly impaired. Every man

looked at his fellows with a doubtful eye. During the war period little of importance transpired to add to the story of military operations. Aside from the establishment of a few minor concerns, which contributed but slightly to the general welfare and prosperity of the community, the industrial development of the county was practically at a standstill.

It was not until ten years after the restoration of peace that the establishment of the great modern industries of Genesee county began, though a few steps in the march of progress along these lines were taken before that period. Among the latter was the venture of N. B. Keeney of Le Roy, who in 1864 established an extensive produce business in that village. He first purchased of I. B. Phelps a building on Lake street, near the railroad. This warehouse being destroyed by fire in 1874, the year after he rebuilt on a more extensive scale. So great was the increase in the business that in 1888 the firm—now N. B. Keeney & Son—built a six-story iron clad building west of the original one, equipped with all the modern appliances for conducting their business. This industry soon became one of the most important in Le Roy, giving employment to a large number of persons.

In 1865 C. F. Prentice bought the mill property built at Le Roy by Jacob Le Roy in 1822 and established his present extensive business. In 1896 Mr. Prentice organized the Le Roy Power & Milling Company, with himself as president and D. C. Howard Prentice as secretary and treasurer, continuing the business which had been operated by the former since 1865. The concern now has a daily capacity of one hundred and seventy-five barrels of flour, besides large quantities of feed, meal, buckwheat, etc. Mr. Prentice is also president of the Hydraulic Electric Company of Le Roy, organized in 1896, and with his son, D. C. H. Prentice, owns the entire plant of the company.

In 1866 Schuyler C. Wells came to Le Roy and entered into partnership with his brother-in-law, L. S. Hooker, as Hooker & Wells, in the drug business. Three years later this partnership was dissolved, and in 1871 Mr. Wells began the manufacture of Shiloh's family remedies. In 1877 he erected the four-story brick building on Church street for the accommodation of his wonderfully increasing business, to which an addition was built in 1882. In the latter year he sold a half interest in the business to his brother, George H. Wells, the firm becoming S. C. Wells & Co. The latter retired in 1892, and in 1897 a stock company was organized for carrying on the business. The enterprise is one of the best known of its kind in the country.

The banking house of Francis C. Lathrop of Le Roy was established in 1867, and conducted by him until August 9, 1893, when the financial depression which afflicted the country compelled him to make an assignment. The business has never been re-established.

The first concern of its kind to be established in Genesee county was the Byron cheese factory. This factory was built in 1867 by a stock company, which at once began the manufacture of cheese intended especially for the markets of England. The factory was built about three-quarters of a mile southwest of Byron Centre, and from the beginning has been successful.

The Le Roy Library Association, which has been one of the most valuable of the public institutions of that town for a quarter of a century, was founded in 1873 by a number of ladies residing in the village. Mrs. John R. Olmsted was chosen to be the first president, and has served continuously since that time in that office.

In 1874 James McElver purchased the old Cummings foundry in Byron and began the manufacture of agricultural implements, his industry soon becoming one of the most important in that town.

Large deposits of limestone of a fine quality and perfectly adapted for building purposes having been discovered in the town of Le Roy, they were exploited about 1870, and from that time on have been worked with profit to the operators. George H. Holmes, Livingston D. Howell, and Morris & Strobel were among the first to enter upon this important enterprise. Mr. Holmes at one time employed as many as one hundred and thirty-five men. The business is still successfully carried on in the town, but the number of men employed is not so great as formerly.

The planing mill built in 1872 at Le Roy by Olmsted & McKenzie was the successor of the first mill of the kind erected there about half a century before by Chauncey Olmsted. While owned by the latter this mill was twice burned and rebuilt. It then passed into the hands of William Olmstead, then Laramee & Smith, Olmsted & McKenzie, McKenzie, King & Sage, Hartwell & Sage, Frost & Murdoch, S. H. Murdoch. Another enterprise established in 1872 was the fruit distillery of Decker & Titman, the only one in Genesee county. In 1875 Thomas Gallagher & Sons started a broom factory on Exchange street. In 1878 J. T. Warren purchased the old Catholic church and there established a foundry and machine shop, engaging chiefly in model and novelty work.

In 1876 the famous Wiard Plow Company moved its works from East Avon to Batavia, and the county seat of Genesee county experienced an industrial impetus which within a few years had placed it foremost among the manufacturing villages of the country.¹ Old manufacturing concerns soon appreciated the manifold advantages which would accrue to them by locating in that village, with the result that within the next few years the county seat of Genesee could boast of being the site of half a dozen or more of the most important manufactures in the country. The effect was beneficial not only to Batavia, but to practically the entire country surrounding.

In 1873 C. B. Rogers & Co. established a sash, door and blind factory at what is known as the old oil mill, on the banks of the Oatka, in Le Roy. It was operated as such by that firm until the fall of 1889, when it was leased to F. C. Rogers, the present proprietor. He purchased the property in the spring of 1892. The machinery for wood working purposes subsequently was removed to Mr. Rogers's new mill on Lake street, which is operated by steam. Water power was used in the old mill. Six to eight hands are employed regularly.

The American Malting Company's plant at Le Roy was originally founded in 1874 by W. D. Matthews & Co. In 1880 Edward Rogerson became associated with the firm, remaining until Mr. Matthews's death in 1888, when the business was continued by Mr. Rogerson and Wilmot D. Matthews.

In 1895 it was incorporated as the W. D. Matthews Malting Co., and in 1897 it became part of the possessions of the American Malting Co., which organization also operates a considerable number of other similar plants in this and other States. The plant in Le Roy is located on the line of the Erie, N. Y. C., and B., R. & P. railroads, and comprises four commodious malt-houses, which are constructed of stone, and a large frame elevator attached. They are fully equipped with improved appliances for economical production, including steam power and electric lights. The output of the plant is about seven hundred thousand bushels of malt per season, and employment is given to sixty skilled maltsters and assistants. The product is especially noteworthy for high quality, and only the finest selected grain is used in its manufacture. The product is shipped chiefly to the large brewers of New York and

¹ Historical sketches of the Wiard Plow Company and the other great industries of Batavia will be found in the chapter devoted to the Village of Batavia.

Boston. The management of the enterprise is in the hands of Edward Rogerson.

Though the first discovery of salt in Le Roy was made as early as February, 1879, it was not until five years later that actual operations for the market were successfully inaugurated. The salt interests of Le Roy are among the most important in Genesee county. Soon after the discovery of this mineral in Wyoming county in 1878, some of the citizens of Le Roy, believing that it existed beneath the surface of that town, were induced through the efforts of N. B. Keeney to subscribe to a fund of fifteen hundred dollars for the purpose of making the desired tests. With the guarantee of this sum, C. M. Everest of Rochester agreed to bore for salt to the Niagara formation, or not to exceed one thousand feet in depth. While Mr. Everest believed salt might be found, he was more anxious to discover oil. He engaged C. B. Matthews of Wyoming to look after his interests, and the latter in turn contracted with Mr. Higley of Bradford, Pa., to drill for the salt or oil.

The work was inaugurated December 4, 1878, and by the end of two months such progress had been made that both gas and brine were reached at a depth of five hundred feet. At this point in the operations Mr. Matthews, upon the advice of Mr. Everest, ceased work and demanded payment for what he had already done. The contract not having been carried out, the citizens of Le Roy who had guaranteed the expenses of the work refused to honor the demand thus summarily made upon them. Litigation followed until the fall of 1881, when Mr. Everest, learning that the people of Le Roy undoubtedly were in the right, proposed to drill another well. The proposition was accepted and work was begun by Curtis & Whitaker under the superintendence of A. E. Miller, John Eyres representing the citizens, who had guaranteed Mr. Everest thirteen hundred dollars if he would assume all the risks. In this well brine and a salt vein twenty to twenty-five feet thick were found at the depth of six hundred and fifteen feet.

Satisfied with the result of the experiments the four Le Roy citizens back of the enterprise continued the work. The first well, which had been obstructed with iron implements, was cleaned, at considerable expense, the work not being completed until the summer of 1882. From that time work was practically abandoned until the spring of 1883, when a plant capable of an output of a hundred barrels per day was put in operation under the direction of the American Chemical Company of West Bay City, Mich. In September of that year the first

salt manufactured—one carload—was shipped from the works. But the process of this company proved a failure, and early in the summer of 1884 the works were remodeled and the grainer process adopted.

At this juncture, and after the failure of the American Chemical Company, it became necessary for those interested in the enterprise to determine whether the future business would warrant an increase in capital sufficient to continue operations on a more extensive scale. It was therefore determined to put down another salt well, this time at the junction of the Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburg and the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western railroads on the Gilmore farm three miles south of Le Roy, in the town of Pavilion. At the depth of eight hundred and forty feet that well developed a vein of salt fifty-one feet thick between two strata of limestone. Completely satisfied as to the success of future operations, the experimenters decided to establish a permanent plant at Le Roy. Accordingly, in the fall of 1884, C. F. Prentice, S. C. Wells, A. E. Miller and N. B. Keeney organized and incorporated the Le Roy Salt Company, Mr. Miller being placed in complete charge of the works. Two grainers were put in with four boilers. With the aid of fourteen workmen fourteen thousand barrels of salt were shipped from the factory that fall.

While this result was satisfactory for a new business in which a small force was employed, it was evident to all interested that the output could be increased with enlarged facilities. Consequently additions were made to the buildings, new grainers were erected, boilers introduced, and a capital of \$30,000 employed, all proving successful.

Changes, however, were constantly made for more economical production, and by the energy and enterprise of the company under the careful management of A. E. Miller, the production reached, on August 31, 1891, six hundred barrels per day. At this time a large part of the works was destroyed by fire, entailing a loss of some \$25,000. Through the unusual business ability and energy of Mr. Miller, the burnt portions were rebuilt and manufacturing resumed in January, 1892. Owing to overwork and the strain necessary to carry on this work, his health began to fail and he died August 28, 1892, and was buried on the 31st, exactly a year after the fire.

As the demand for Le Roy salt was constantly increasing, large additions were made from time to time until the plant has become one of the largest in the country. In spite of the depression incident to hard times and free trade in salt, the business increased every year and in

1897 the average output was one thousand barrels per day. The force employed is one hundred and twenty five hands. Nineteen boilers aggregating two thousand horse power furnish the steam and motive power. The salt is made in twenty grainers, operated day and night, and a storage capacity is provided of nearly two hundred thousand bushels, which is crowded to its limits. The first block erected in 1882 was thirty-six by three hundred feet. As rebuilt in 1891 it was one hundred and thirty-six by three hundred feet, with an addition of forty by seventy-six feet. As it now stands the main building is three hundred and twelve by three hundred and sixty-two feet, with an addition of eighty-six by one hundred and sixty-eight feet. The company operates eleven wells, averaging six hundred and fifty feet in depth, and the furthest one being one mile from the works. The officers of the company at present are C. F. Prentice, president; John Burden, vice-president; C. N. Keeney, secretary and treasurer; J. P. Samson, manager.

Oakfield has shared in general prosperity of the county in these days. In 1878 Henry Fishell established in that town a plant for the manufacture of all kinds of agricultural machinery, which he continued to operate for eleven years. Albert Howland succeeded to the business in that year. In 1883 Olmsted & Staples built a plant for the manufacture of barrel heads and staves, a short time afterward adding a plaster manufacturing establishment. At the same time a barrel and lumber mill was in operation by Harmon Parker. In 1886 M. B. Tarba erected a mill of a similar nature in the northeastern part of the town. This was burned in the spring of 1889, but was immediately rebuilt.

In Stafford, John Simmons built an extensive grist mill at Morganville in 1878, on the site of the mill erected in 1820 by Adget Lathrop. In 1886 Albert H. White embarked in the manufacture of wagons, carriages, sleighs, potato diggers, etc., in the shop built in 1853.

In Pembroke, Gillmore & Carpenter built the present roller mills at Indian Falls in 1879. They are located at the falls in Tonawanda creek, which at this point furnishes a splendid water power, the fall being forty-one feet. The mill is still operated by the firm of S. Gillmore & Co. The Indian Falls grist and flour mill was established about the same time about a quarter of a mile above the falls. D. K. Chaddock was an early proprietor.

In the town of Byron, Rowley H. Douglass built the Genesee rolling mills in 1880. They are located on Black creek, about half a mile east

of Byron Centre, on the site of the mills originally built many years before by James Taggart. McKenzie & Bennett succeeded Mr. Douglass as proprietors.

In Bergen, Peter Weber began the manufacture of baskets by hand in 1864. The business subsequently assumed extensive proportions. In 1879 O. J. Miller began the manufacture of steam engines of various kinds in that village. Under his skillful management the industry has become one of considerable importance. He is still the sole proprietor of the business.

The F. W. Miller Manufacturing Company, composed of F. W. Miller and C. W. Bradley, manufacturers of machinery and agricultural implements, is the successor to the business started by F. W. Miller in Caledonia in 1880. Mr. Miller's father died in 1886. The industry was removed to Le Roy in 1895, and in May, 1897, the present company was formed. The manufacturing plant was erected in 1895, and the average number of hands employed is twenty-five. The products comprise Miller's bean harvesters, bean planters, steel land rollers, wood stave land rollers, potato coverers, chilled plows, wheel cultivators, etc.

The lumber yard of George H. Church at Bergen was started in 1877. Since 1885 a saw mill and planing mill has been operated in connection therewith, the whole enterprise forming a valuable contribution to the industrial welfare of Bergen.

About 1880 Alva O. Barden erected in Corfu a large frame building, designed for use as a public hall and for stores. The structure was named Barden hall, after its owner, but was not a financial success. It is now used jointly by a broom factory and the natural gas company of Corfu.

Laban H. Robinson of Darien built his feed and saw mills at the village of Darien in 1881, locating them on Murder creek, on the site of the mills built in 1854 by Stephen Douglas. Zeno Griswold's grist, saw and cider mills were established previous to the former date at Sawens, also on Murder creek.

In Pavilion, J. Quincy D. Page established a cooper works in 1886 for the manufacture of barrels, tubs, etc. The output has always been large. In 1888 Henry Chilson erected a steam grist mill and saw mill having a capacity of three hundred bushels of grain per day. About that time John C. Doty erected a warehouse for produce and grain on the site of two earlier warehouses built by Dr. William B. Sprague,

both of which had been burned. Another enterprise established at this time was the fruit evaporator of B. F. Trescott, located where Dr. Sprague formerly was engaged in the same line of business.

In Alabama, William Price erected a substantial steam saw mill in 1872 on the site of his original mill, built in 1861, but burned in the year first mentioned. Soon after he began the operation of a second mill. In 1888 S. S. Parker built the model creamery, for the manufacture of both butter and cheese.

Early in the period covered by this chapter Judge Ira Rix and Alonzo T. Mooers engaged in the grain and milling business in Alexander. The Messrs. Moulton were extensive millers about the same time. George Jones began the manufacture of sash and blinds and Horace Hunn operated a saw mill in the sixties.

In 1881 George Perry built a grist mill in Bethany. Daniel Merritt's cooper shop was in operation before that year.

Some of the principal industries established in Elba prior to 1868 were Phineas Barr, jr.'s saw mill and shop, E. Murphy's stave and barrel factory, French & Co.'s stave and heading mill, Thomas Griffin's saw mill, Hall & Grimes's woolen mill, Southwick & Staples's stave factory, E. M. Whitney's flouring mills, James Bray's woolen mill and Frank Kurtz's woolen mill.

The cold storage warehouse business of P. Gleason, started at Le Roy on a small scale in 1887, has developed into one of the most important enterprises of its kind in Western New York. The present warehouse was built by Mr. Gleason in 1891. Adjoining it is a large bean elevator, both of which are fully equipped. Mr. Gleason annually handles enormous quantities of apples, pears and beans. Railroad tracks adjoin both the houses. The cold storage capacity is about fifty thousand barrels of apples at one time, and the annual shipment from the plant amounts to about one hundred and fifty thousand barrels of apples and pears and three hundred thousand bushels of beans. A force of fifteen men and eighty girls is employed by Mr. Gleason, who also maintains several other similar establishments in Western New York.

The fruit evaporating establishment of Benjamin F. Trescott at Pavilion was constructed in 1880 by Mr. Trescott. It does an extensive local business.

One of the most important industries of the town of Pembroke is the cultivation of flowers in greenhouses for the wholesale and retail mar-

ket. This business was established in 1883 by Mrs. Irene Tyrrell, who now owns four greenhouses at Corfu. Since that time twenty-six greenhouses have been built there. Of these William Scott of Buffalo owns and operates four large ones. Six are owned by Edward Giddings, eight by Thomas Webb and two by James Farnham.

The Exchange Bank of Oakfield, a private institution, was established in 1883 by F. E. Wright. It was located in the Jackson block for several years, but in the fall of 1898 moved into its own building, a handsome stone and brick structure. Mr. Wright has always been president of the bank.

In 1883 Orator F. Woodward began the manufacture of patent medicines at Le Roy. In 1896 he added the manufacture of Grain-O, a product now known all over the United States. Four large buildings, all owned by Mr. Woodward, are now devoted exclusively to this business.

Another important enterprise was added to the industries of Bergen when the Cold Spring Creamery Company of that town was incorporated in March, 1888. The original capital stock of \$1,400 was soon increased to \$2,000, on account of the unanticipated increase in the company's business. Francis W. Fanson was chosen superintendent, secretary and treasurer. The annual production of butter ranges from forty to sixty thousand pounds. The fence works of Michael Doran at Bergen were established in 1889. Mr. Doran's cider and vinegar factory has been in operation since 1873.

Salt was discovered in the town of Pavilion in the year 1890. The Pavilion Salt Mining Company was organized in that year, and at once secured title to seven hundred and forty acres of land, at a total cost of \$188,480. This land is a part of the "salt basin" of Western New York, being on a direct line between the Retsof mines, ten miles to the southeast, and the Le Roy salt wells, four miles to the northwest. Salt was struck at the depth of eight hundred and seventy-five feet. The upper stratum consisted of a deposit sixteen feet thick, followed by a layer of dividing rock six feet thick, then another layer of salt thirty-one feet thick. There was no brine, however, and as there was no water in abundant quantities convenient the work was abandoned temporarily. Subsequently the Le Roy Salt Company began to work the Pavilion field. A history of the operations of this company has been given in the preceding pages.

The Pavilion Salt Company, a copartnership, was organized in the

spring of 1891 by the Hon. Lester H. Humphrey of Warsaw and Marcus E. Calkins of Ithaca. The present partners are the foregoing and O. S. Humphrey of Warsaw, son of L. H. Humphrey. The company began drilling for salt in the southern part of the village of Pavilion in May, 1891. The vein of rock salt which had previously been discovered at Warsaw, Wyoming county, and at other points in Western New York, including Le Roy, was struck at Pavilion at the depth of ten hundred and twelve feet, and was found to be more than seventy feet in thickness. The salt was found to be of exceptionally fine quality, being entirely free from the chlorides which make so much of the salt sold in this country unfit for table and dairy purposes. Most of the salt is made in open iron pans by direct heat, which is the process mainly employed in England. The output for seven years has been six hundred and fifty thousand barrels of two hundred and eighty pounds each. Two thirds of the product has been fine table and dairy salt, and about one-third what is called common fine and coarse salt. The company employs from thirty to forty persons, men and women, and is the most important industry in the town of Pavilion.

One of the most important industries in that part of the county outside of Batavia is the Oakfield Fertilizer Company, which was incorporated in March, 1892, with a capital stock of \$250,000. The incorporators named in the articles filed in the office of the secretary of state were Charles Mager, Horace J. Harvey, Frank P. Vandenbergh, George Sandrock, Philip Houck, Aaron D. Coffin, William W. Stevens, Albert A. Grinnell, Jacob Davis, John Irlbacker, Charles E. Benedict and Francis J. Henry. From the start the concern has been very successful, the output finding a market in all parts of the Union. It is noticed by a bulletin of the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station appearing in August, 1896, that the Oakfield Fertilizer Company's brands were found to be of a higher percentage of value than was guaranteed by the company.

Several new industries were organized in 1894, and some changes in the established enterprises occurred. Frank Richards in that year succeeded C. S. Thompson as owner and operator of the Star Roller Mills at Alexander, the principal industry in that town. At Le Roy Kroner & Lapp established a large plant for the manufacture of sash, doors, blinds, mouldings, cisterns, etc., and at once erected a commodious building for carrying on their business. The Randall Fence Company of Le Roy was also founded in 1894. The Randall fencing was de-

signed by William P. Randall and first introduced by him in 1890. The fabric, being new to the trade, had to be made by specially prepared machinery, worked by hand power, which was also designed by Mr. Randall. The industry soon became quite well known by sales to a prominent seedman in New York city, who used the fabric for garden trellis. Accordingly in 1894 Mr. Randall organized a stock company with a capital stock of \$15,000 and these officers: President, George F. Lowe; vice-president, William P. Randall; secretary and treasurer, Calvin E. Bryant. In 1895 Mr. Bryant sold his interest to S. C. Douglas, and in 1897 Mr. Lowe sold his interest to William F. Huyck. Mr. Randall remains vice-president, Mr. Huyck is president and treasurer, and Mr. Douglas is secretary. The company enjoys a trade scattered through twenty-six States.

Le Roy Lodge No. 73, I. O. O. F., was organized at Le Roy April 19, 1895, with thirty-one members and Henry Duguid as noble grand. The Le Roy Bicycle Club was organized June 15, 1896, with the following officers: President, T. W. Larkin; vice-president, J. P. Muller; secretary, Frank Woodruff; treasurer, Walter Given; collector, Ralph Wilcox; captain, A. J. Hooker; first lieutenant, Carl Wells; second lieutenant, George G. Seyffer.

About this time Clarence O. Richards, who for some time had been operating the old flour, feed and saw mill near the depot at Corfu, enlarged his plant and increased his facilities for the manufacture of cider. The industry has become one of considerable importance in the town of Pembroke.

At Pavilion R. L. Hutchinson built a large flour and feed mill near the railroad in 1893, and has since remained its proprietor.

In the spring of 1894 the creamery at East Pembroke was built and opened for business in April. The first officers of the company operating it were: President, James F. Bennett; treasurer, D. L. Wilkinson; secretary, L. C. Case; directors, J. F. Bennett, Henry P. Ellinwood, Abraham Mook, William Uphill, John Moore. The Byron cheese factory was also opened for business in May of this year. During the year the Oakfield and Alabama Fish and Bird Protective Association was organized with the following officers: President, Seneca Allen; vice-presidents, G. H. Craft, Thomas O'Reilly, Frederick B. Parker; secretary and treasurer, E. F. Hickey. The Co-operative Insurance Company of Wyoming and Genesee Counties was organized February 22, 1892.

The year 1895 witnessed the inauguration of an important industry in the town of Pembroke—the development of the natural gas found beneath the surface of the earth in the vicinity of Corfu. The first gas well, located about a quarter of a mile north of that village, was driven early in the summer of 1895 by the Corfu Gas Company, of which George W. Archer of Rochester is president. The balance of the stock of the company is held by the estate of Robert Roy of Bradford, Pa. Soon after five other wells were sunk, and a plant costing twelve thousand dollars was erected at Corfu. The gas was first discovered on the farm of Wilder E. Sumner.

At Le Roy the roller mills of McEwen & Cole were constructed and began operation in 1896. The year following E. W. Miller came from Caledonia and established his iron foundry. Both are located near the depot of the Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburg Railroad.

In response to a demand for local banking facilities, the private banking house of W. S. & C. E. Housel was established in Bergen September 25, 1896. W. S. Housel became president and C. E. Housel cashier, both still remaining in those respective offices. This is the first and only banking institution to be established in Bergen.

Nicholas Schubmehl came from Cohocton, N. Y., to Bergen January 1, 1897, and started a cigar factory in the latter village under the style of Schubmehl & Co. The factory employs from thirty to forty hands, and manufactures cigars only, for the jobbing trade. The output averages about three million cigars annually.

John J. Ellis established at Darien Centre a few years ago a grain and produce business which has undergone many changes and improvements, until it is to day an enterprise of considerable proportions. It is one of the most important establishments of its kind in Genesee county, outside of the village of Batavia.

Though yet in its infancy, with the product undeveloped, there exists in the town of Bergen the foundation for one of the most important industries in all Western New York. Early in the summer of 1897 a gentleman who is superintendent of a large manufacturing plant was traveling through Genesee county on the West Shore railroad, when his attention was attracted to the peculiar formation of the earth, almost white in color, through which a cut had been made in the construction of the railroad. So impressed was he that he alighted from the train at the next station, walked back to the cut, procured samples of the earth, and proceeded to his destination on the next train. Plac-

ing the samples thus secured in the hands of a chemist for analysis, he was surprised to learn that the earth was almost pure lime, containing 97.6 per cent. of this mineral. Subsequent investigation showed that the deposit covered about three hundred acres of land, and that the average depth was ten feet. Large quantities of blue clay were also discovered in the immediate vicinity. Other experiments were conducted, and from these two materials a superior quality of Portland cement was made. Early in 1898 the Iroquois Portland Cement Company was organized at Buffalo, and incorporated under the laws of West Virginia. The company at once secured the rights to the land, containing at dry weight over five million cubic yards of marl, which will be sufficient to supply a plant with a capacity of one thousand barrels per day for forty years. The company is capitalized at one million dollars. Its officers are: President, Jacob Davis; secretary, John C. Bertand; vice-president, A. D. Coffin; treasurer, Edward L. Davis; attorney, William E. Webster. These, with John S. Hertel and Eugene Bertand, are comprised in the board of directors. The development of this great marl bed has not yet begun, but plans are being made to carry on the work.

Another concern incorporated in 1897 was the Diamond Wall Cement Company of Oakfield. The broom factory of Nelson Brown was started at Corfu in November, 1898. E. W. Boyce, manufacturer of machinery supplies, etc., established his business in Oakfield April 1, 1898.

The first industry of its kind existing in the town of Bergen for a period of half a century is the concern known as the Bergen Roller Mills, which were constructed in Bergen village in 1898 by Thomas J. Tone. These mills, having a capacity of fifty barrels per day, employing seven hands and being operated by steam power alone, began running December 12, 1898, manufacturing flour and feed. They are among the best equipped mills in the country.

Standard's sash, door and blind factory at Bergen was erected in the fall and winter of 1898.

In March, 1898, Miller Bros. & Co. purchased of Daniel J. McPherson his grain and coal business and elevator at Bergen. This business was established many years ago by Platts & McPherson. In 1882 the junior partner, Donald McPherson, purchased the interest of Henry Platts and took his son, Daniel J. McPherson, into partnership. In 1896 D. J. McPherson assumed sole control of the business, retaining it until its sale to Miller Bros. & Co.

A destructive fire laid a large part of the village of Bergen in ruins on the night of Monday, January 15, 1866. The flames originated about eleven p. m. in the hardware store and tin shop occupied by Samuel C. Tulley, located at the foot of Main street adjoining the New York Central railroad, and within two hours "every building on the west side of the street up to the crossing of the main street, running east and west, together with the large and commodious warehouse in the rear, belonging to Beecher & Marvin, was in ruins." The latter was considered one of the finest buildings of its kind in Western New York. The section destroyed embraced nearly all the business portion of the village. Among the principal buildings burned, beside the warehouse referred to were the two-story shoe store owned by Lawrence Crosby, the three-story dry goods store of E. F. Hubbard, the new dry goods store of J. D. Doolittle, Smith & Co., S. C. Tulley's hardware store, Harvey Mullen's shoe store, John H. Parish's flour and feed store, Samuel C. Carpenter's clothing store and residence, residence and oyster saloon occupied by Augustus C. Hamlin and owned by Samuel C. Carpenter, a building owned by J. D. Doolittle and occupied by W. Thopson and wife as a dwelling and dressmaking establishment, harness shop owned by Lawrence L. Crosby and occupied by William H. King, dwelling of Eleanor Crosby, dwelling of W. N. Beardsley. The total number of buildings destroyed was seventeen, and the loss aggregated between \$40,000 and \$50,000.

On Friday night, June 15, 1866, fire originated in A. A. Woodruff's hardware store in the village of Oakfield, and before the flames were quenched the following buildings were destroyed: A. A. Woodruff's hardware store, loss \$11,000; John D. Stedman's shoe store, loss \$1,000; E. T. Jacquith's shoe store, loss \$500; C. H. Jacquith's cabinet shop, loss \$600; A. C. Dodge's harness shop, loss \$1,200; George Stegmen's harness shop, loss \$200; C. H. Chamberlain's dry good store, loss about \$6,000; millinery store and meat market of Mrs. George W. Brown, loss \$600; dwelling house owned by Mrs. Calder and occupied by George Chamberlain.

A destructive fire visited Le Roy on the evening of Thursday, January 28, 1869. The flames originated in the cabinet shop of G. & H. Steuber, and before they could be quenched they had destroyed several large buildings. Among the heaviest losers were the Steuber Brothers, loss \$11,000; W. S. Brown & Co.'s carriage works, loss \$11,000; John

Wiss's hotel, \$4,000; L. J. Bissell's bakery, loss \$2,500; Morton & Dean's shoe store; and other establishments.

The Genesee County Pioneer Association had its genesis in a meeting held at Union hall in Batavia, August 25, 1869, at which a number of the pioneer settlers of Genesee county were present. The meeting was presided over by Stewart Chamberlain, and Marcus L. Babcock acted as secretary. Before the meeting adjourned it was decided to form an association of the living descendants of the pioneers of the county, and Hon. Moses Taggart of Batavia, Marcus L. Babcock of Batavia, Sylvester Willis of Oakfield, Alanson Fisher of Darien, Samuel Scofield of Elba, Stewart Chamberlain of Le Roy, and Augustus P. Hascall of Le Roy were named as a committee to draft a constitution and by-laws to govern the contemplated society. This committee presented a constitution at an adjourned meeting held in the court house at Batavia October 5, 1869, when the organization was perfected by the election of the following officers:

President, Hon. Heman J. Redfield; vice-president, Hon. Seth Wakeman; secretary, Phineas Ford; assistant secretary, Augustus P. Hascall; treasurer, James P. Mitchell; vice-presidents for their respective towns: Alabama, Joseph Lund; Alexander, Earl Kidder; Batavia, James S. Stewart; Bergen, Ebenezer Scofield; Bethany, Luman Stevens; Byron, Cyrenus Walker; Darien, Alanson Fisher; Elba, Samuel Scofield; Le Roy, Stewart Chamberlain; Oakfield, Sylvester Willis; Pavilion, Chester Hannum; Pembroke, David Anderson; Stafford, Daniel Prentice.

Since that time the officers of the society have been as follows:

- 1871.—President, Moses Taggart; secretary, David Seaver.
- 1872.—President, Alden S. Stevens; secretary, David Seaver.
- 1873.—President, Benjamin Pringle; secretary, David Seaver.
- 1874.—President, Benjamin Pringle; secretary, David Seaver.
- 1875.—President James P. Mitchell; secretary, J. M. Waite.
- 1876.—President, James P. Mitchell; secretary, J. N. Beckley.
- 1877.—President, Albert Rowe; secretary, Safford E. North.
- 1878.—President, Albert Rowe; secretary, Safford E. North.
- 1879.—President, Albert Rowe; secretary, Safford E. North.
- 1880.—President, Israel M. Peck; secretary, Safford E. North.
- 1881.—President, James P. Mitchell; secretary, Frank S. Wood.
- 1882.—President, Lucius Atwater; secretary, Frank S. Wood.
- 1883.—President, Lucius Atwater; secretary, Frank S. Wood.

- 1884.—President, Albert Rowe; secretary, Frank S. Wood.
 1885.—President, Lucius Atwater; secretary, Frank S. Wood.
 1886.—President, Lucius Atwater; secretary, Frank S. Wood.
 1887.—President, Lucius Atwater; secretary, Frank S. Wood.
 1888.—President, E. C. Walker; secretary, John H. Yates.
 1889.—President, Lucius Atwater; secretary, John H. Yates.
 1890.—President, Lucius Atwater; secretary, John H. Yates.
 1891.—President, S. B. Lusk; secretary, John H. Yates.
 1892.—President, S. B. Lusk; secretary, John H. Yates.
 1893.—President, S. B. Lusk; secretary, John H. Yates.
 1894.—President, Adin G. Gage; secretary, John H. Yates.
 1895.—President, Sylvanus Ford; secretary, John H. Yates.
 1896.—President, Sylvanus Ford; secretary, John H. Yates.
 1897.—President, Sylvanus Ford; secretary, John H. Yates.
 1898.—President, Jacob Nichols; secretary, John H. Yates.
 1899.—President, Jacob Nichols; secretary, John H. Yates.

A number of the leading citizens of Stafford met in 1870 and organized the Stafford Benefit Association, a mutual insurance association. The institution was reorganized in 1877 and incorporated according to the laws of the State of New York in 1881. The society soon became one of the most prosperous in the State, and its officers have been the most highly esteemed residents of the town of Stafford.

In the summer of 1875 Le Roy was again visited by a destructive fire, which laid in ashes the Starr block, with an adjacent block, containing stores, offices and the public library. The loss of the latter could not be replaced, as it contained many rare books of value.

The Rochester and State Line Railroad Company secured a charter from the State of New York October 6, 1869, to build a railroad from Rochester, the northern terminus, southwest through the Genesee and Wyoming valleys to Salamanca, a distance of one hundred and eight and one-half miles. The section between Rochester and Le Roy, twenty-four and one-tenth miles, was opened for business September 15, 1874. At this time the following officers and directors were in charge: President, M. F. Reynolds; treasurer, G. E. Mumford; secretary and assistant treasurer, D. McNaughton; engineer and superintendent, C. S. Masten, all of Rochester; directors, M. F. Reynolds, C. F. Smith, Thomas Leighton, G. H. Perkins, Edward Harris, George Darling, George E. Mumford, of Rochester; D. D. S. Brown, Scottsville, N. Y.; Oliver S. Allen, Mumford, N. Y.; William Bristol, Warsaw, N. Y.

The line to Salamanca was completed and opened for traffic May 16, 1878. When originally commenced the intention was to build to the bituminous coal fields of Western Pennsylvania. The city of Rochester put \$600,000, and the towns along the line \$500,000, into the enterprise. In 1879 the Vanderbilts acquired the control of the road, intending to make it a connecting link between the old Atlantic and Great Western Railroad (now Chicago and Erie Railroad) and the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad. The authorities of the city of Rochester concluding that the Vanderbilts were responsible for the company, and that the original intention of building to the coal fields had been abandoned, brought action against the company and the Vanderbilts for upwards of one million dollars, and at the same time the contractor commenced legal proceedings for a large amount. These actions were tried and dismissed by the court.

Finding that it was impossible to obtain an undisputed title to the property without long and tedious litigation, the Vanderbilts abandoned the road, and default being made on the bonds, a foreclosure was commenced, and Mr. Sylvanus J. Macy appointed receiver February 23, 1880. In January, 1881, the property was sold under foreclosure proceedings, and reorganized as the Rochester and Pittsburgh Railroad Company.

With this change disappeared all connection of local men with the road. In 1884 the road again passed into the hands of a receiver by reason of a default on its second mortgage bonds. Sale under foreclosure proceedings took place in October, 1885, when the property was purchased by Adrian Iselin of New York, and associates, and reorganized under the name of the Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh Railway Company, its present title. The road now operates four hundred and eighty-nine miles of track.

Practically the entire business portion of the village of Bergen was destroyed by fire on the night of Sunday, February 29, 1880. The buildings burned comprised thirty-one business houses, seven residences and five barns. The principal sufferers and the amount of the loss on the part of each was as follows:

S. K. Green, dry goods and groceries, \$18,000; Samuel C. Tulley, hardware, \$17,000; George H. Church, hardware, \$6,000; Mrs. Harford, Brennan hotel building, \$4,000; John Walker, dwelling house, barn and two tenement houses, \$6,000; H. S. Andrews, grocery, \$1,400; L. A. Pratt, store, \$1,000; H. A. King, grain warehouse, \$5,000; Harvey

Mullen, boot and shoe store, \$1,500; Southworth & Tone, grain warehouse and barn, \$10,000; V. C. Calkins, drug store, \$3,000; William P. Munger, King warehouse, \$2,650; F. M. Merrill, printing office, \$4,000; G. F. Buell, grocer, \$2,000; E. E. Spencer, grocer, \$1,800; A. T. Southworth, house and barn, \$2,800; Miss Chalker, millinery, block and stock, \$1,000; Morey and Son, empty block, \$2,300; S. Carpenter & Son, clothing store and Fisher drug store building, \$6,800; Parish block, \$1,000; A. S. Fisher, drug store, \$1,500; Mrs. B. M. Hall, dwelling and contents, \$2,000; Morton Bros., clothiers, \$2,500.

Soon after the fire Benedict Harford erected a hotel on the site of the Brennan hotel, now known as the Harford house. The new hotel was at first conducted by Patrick Brennan, then by John Brennan, then Mr. Eckler, and finally by Benedict Harford, who has been proprietor since 1885. The Walker house on the opposite corner was also erected in 1880 by William C. Walker, who has been its proprietor since that year.

The New York, West Shore and Buffalo Railroad was opened through for traffic in January, 1884. Its line passes through the northern tier of towns in Genesee county. December 5, 1885, the property was transferred to the newly organized West Shore Railroad Company, and on the same date the line was leased to the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad Company for four hundred and seventy-five years.

The village of Bergen having been a great sufferer by fire in preceding years, the agitation in favor of adopting a system affording better protection against the ravages of the destructive element resulted in the organization of the Bergen Fire Department on November 17, 1886. The first officers elected were: George O. Emerson, president; Michael F. Bergin, vice-president; Daniel S. Thompson, secretary; Homer L. Gage, treasurer; William A. Bowen, chief engineer. Fifty one original members signed the department roll. Of these, Charles T. Goodwin, W. T. Bergin, S. J. Getman, Richard Haley, Eugene Snyder, Grant W. Buell, Harvey Boyce and E. L. Fisher were selected as members of the hose company. The remaining sixty-three members of the department were assigned to the engine company. Grant W. Buell was chosen foreman and Charles T. Goodwin assistant foreman of the hose company, and N. A. Eckler was chosen foreman and Myron H. Parmelee assistant foreman of the engine company. The apparatus of the department has always consisted of a hand engine and a hose cart.

Three reservoirs, located at convenient points throughout the village, furnish the supply of water for use at fires.

The chief engineers of the department have been as follows: William A. Bowen, elected in December, 1886, died in office April 17, 1888; James R. McKenzie, elected December, 1888; Myron H. Parmelee, 1889; John W. Day, 1893; John S. Gleason, 1894; George M. Gillette, 1898. The first secretary, D. S. Thompson, was succeeded by Mr. Emerson, who in turn was succeeded in 1895 by Daniel J. McPherson, the present secretary.

A terrific thunderstorm occurred in Genesee county on the afternoon of Tuesday, July 2, 1889. In Batavia it is recorded as having been the worst in the history of the county seat. Streets were flooded, cellars were filled with water, and the sewers, inadequate to the extraordinary demands made upon them, overflowed. In several business places in town stock in cellars was ruined or badly damaged by the flood, and considerable damage was done by lightning. The electric fluid also shocked many individuals, but none was injured seriously. The year 1889 was also marked by the incorporation of the Buffalo and Geneva Railroad.

A catastrophe accompanied by the loss of three lives occurred December 31, 1890. Workmen were employed on the Lehigh Valley Railroad extension on the farm of John Simmonds near Morganville, in the town of Stafford. During the discharge of a heavy blast large quantities of earth and stone were thrown among the body of laborers, three of whom—Andrew Hunt, John Nosky and Andrew Hoodock—were either instantly killed or died soon after the occurrence, by reason of the injuries received. The Buffalo extension of this road was completed the following year and opened for traffic September 1, 1892.

The Le Roy Business Men's Association was formed August 22, 1890. The first officers, chosen on that date, were as follows: President, Edward Rogerson; vice-presidents, Thomas B. Tuttle, Charles F. Prentice, J. B. Gillett; secretary, William E. Humelbaugh; treasurer, George H. Wells; directors, C. N. Keeney, Dennis Scanlon, John Wiss, D. Jackson Bissell, S. Loucks.

The Lehigh Valley Railway Company was organized June 23, 1890. This road was formed by the consolidation of sundry roads outside of Genesee county, and of the Buffalo and Geneva Railroad, projected to run from Buffalo to Geneva, N. Y., and to traverse the county, and or-

ganized about May 1, 1889. The Lehigh Valley Railway was completed and opened for business about September 1, 1892. The road runs from the Pennsylvania State line north of Sayre, Pa., to Buffalo, N. Y., and through the towns of Le Roy, Stafford, Batavia, Pembroke and Darien. The Lehigh Valley Railway was leased to the Lehigh Valley Railroad Co.—a Pennsylvania corporation—January 1, 1891, and has since been operated by the latter company.

July 26, 1891, a disastrous fire occurred in the village of Oakfield, causing a loss of about seventeen thousand dollars. The flames originated in the basement of J. C. Doolittle & Co.'s bakery in the north end of Seymour Reed's brick block. The other business places burned were C. H. Griffin's store, in the Reed block; J. C. Black & Co.'s meat market, A. C. Dodge's harness store, and Warner H. Smith's blacksmith shop, in the building owned by Charles H. Chamberlain. August 31 of the same year the plant of the Le Roy Salt Company at Le Roy was damaged by fire to the extent of thirty thousand dollars, but the establishment was soon rebuilt. In the following October the East Elba M. E. church, a structure which had been built sixty-one years before, was destroyed by fire. It was at once rebuilt, the dedication taking place May 5, 1892. January 19, 1894, the plant of the Matthews Malting Company at Le Roy was damaged by fire to the extent of thirty thousand dollars.

An accident attended by the loss of the lives of five persons, which occurred near the village of Le Roy on Sunday, August 20, 1893, brought sorrow to the hearts of the inhabitants of Genesee county. Lorenzo J. Bovee of Le Roy, accompanied by his wife, Mrs. Adelia Bovee; his daughter, Miss Ola Bovee; and Miss Emma Bowden of New York and Miss Lena Wicks of Le Roy, was driving from his home near the village to services in the Le Roy Presbyterian church. On the Lake road crossing of the Lehigh Valley Railroad the vehicle was struck by an express train and all five persons were instantly killed. Mr. Bovee was fifty-eight years of age and one of the best known residents of eastern Genesee county. He had for several years carried on an extensive lumber business at Tonawanda, and was the owner of large tracts of timber land in Michigan.

The village of Oakfield, was again visited by a most disastrous fire on May 11, 1895. The flames originated in the rear of Harris & Chapin's hardware store in the Chamberlin block, owned by Charles H. Chamberlain. In this block were located, beside Harris & Chapin's

store, Dr. Pugsley's drug store, Eugene T. Chamberlin's dry goods store, and the offices of Dr. A. G. Zurhorst and B. F. Hawes, justice of the peace, all of which were destroyed. Beside these the following were burned: L. A. Weaver's furniture store, R. B. McVea's store, both located in a building owned by the former; H. C. Martin & Son's store, with the office of I. J. Stedman, justice of the peace, located in the same building; Callan & Gilmore's meat market, John B. Arnold's hotel and barns, and two private dwelling houses. August 28 of this year the Le Roy Power and Milling Company of Le Roy was incorporated with a capital stock of sixty-five thousand dollars, and these directors: Charles F. Prentice, Dr. C. H. Prentice, Calvin E. Keeney, John P. Sampson, William F. Huyck. The Le Roy Hydraulic Electric Company was incorporated on the same day.

May 15, 1896, a number of the leading business men of Bergen organized the Bergen Board of Trade, having these officers: President, D. J. McPherson; vice-president, C. N. Carpenter; secretary, A. A. Roberts; treasurer, J. S. Gleason.

In 1897 an event of considerable note occurred in Le Roy in the death of William Lampson, the wealthiest resident of that town and for many years the president of the Bank of Le Roy, on February 14. When his will was opened it was found that the bulk of his estate, valued at about six hundred and fifty thousand dollars, was bequeathed to Yale University, of which he was a graduate. Mr. Lampson was a son of Miles P. Lampson, founder of the Bank of Le Roy, and for many years was one of the most prominent men in Genesee county.

In November, 1896, a number of the fruit growers of Genesee county met at Batavia and organized the Genesee County Fruit Growers' Union, with these officers: President, Nelson Bogue; vice-president, J. G. Fargo; secretary and treasurer, D. L. Dodgson; executive committee, N. H. Green, George Douglass, W. H. Chaddock.

The Citizens' Bank of Le Roy was incorporated as a State institution in November, 1896, and was opened for the transaction of business January 1, 1897. The charter directors were Wilbur F. Smallwood, Frederick R. Green, Thomas B. Tuttle, Mathias Muller, William F. Huyck, John P. Sampson and Edward H. Butler, and the capital stock is fifty thousand dollars. The present officers of the bank have held office since its organization. They are: President, Wilbur F. Smallwood; vice-president, Thomas B. Tuttle; cashier, Frank E. Chaddock.

Two events of importance to the village of Le Roy occurred in 1897.

March 30 the taxpayers of the corporation of Le Roy voted in favor of corporation ownership of the electric light plant in that village. The village therefore purchased for \$27,750, of General C. Fitch Bissell, owner of the gas and electric light plants of Le Roy, that industry. The Supreme Court subsequently decided that the action of the taxpayers of the village was illegal and ordered the corporation to turn the property over to the original owner. General Bissell refused to accept the title to the concern, and the case was carried to the Court of Appeals, where it now lies. The charter of the village of Le Roy was amended by the Legislature in 1897, one of the principal features of the act being a provision for the election of the village president directly by the people. Prior to that time the presiding officer had been chosen by the trustees from among their number. The first person to serve as village president under the amended charter was L. T. Williams, who was chosen at the corporation election in 1897.

September 8, 1897, while workmen were making excavations in a swamp on the farm of General C. Fitch Bissell of Le Roy, located on the Alexander road a short distance south of the village of Batavia, portions of the remains of a prehistoric animal, probably a mastodon, were unearthed. The day following additional relics were found. These included large tusks of ivory, portions of ribs, a jaw bone holding two enormous teeth, vertebrae, etc. Prof. H. L. Ward of Rochester, a naturalist, expressed the opinion, after investigating the remarkable discovery, that the bones had been under the earth from three to six thousand years, and that the weight of the animal, when alive exceeded five tons. Twelve or fifteen years before this discovery, the antlers of a prehistoric animal were unearthed on Dr. Horn's farm on the State road. The remains of the mastodon found in 1897 are now on exhibition in the Holland Land Office in Batavia.

A new era in the agricultural development of Genesee county began in 1897, when about one hundred and fifty of the farmers of the county began the culture of sugar beets. Expert authorities expressed the belief that the soil of this county is unusually adapted to the culture of this product. Though the industry is still in its infancy, the outlook is that the culture of sugar beets eventually will become a most important factor in the agricultural interests of the county.

The Genesee County Volunteer Firemen's Association was organized in Batavia January 12, 1898, at which time these officers were chosen: President, Stanley M. Smith of Le Roy; first vice-president, James A.

Le Seur of Batavia; second vice-president, D. J. McPherson of Bergen; secretary, Edward A. Short of Batavia; treasurer, L. W. Stuber of Le Roy; executive committee, Anthony Harsch of Batavia, J. S. Gleason of Bergen, Wilder E. Sumner of Corfu, John S. Brown of Le Roy, Warner Smith of Oakfield, and Dr. W. O. Burbank of Pavilion.

When President McKinley issued his first call for volunteers to serve in the war with Spain in the summer of 1898, Genesee county responded promptly to the summons. Patriotism was instantly apparent on all sides, but unfortunately the volunteers from this county were destined to get no nearer the scene of conflict than Virginia or Tennessee before the peace protocol was signed and the order for the return home of most of the troops was issued.

The total number of residents of Genesee county who were connected with the armed forces of the nation during this brief war was thirty-nine. Of these thirty-six served in the army and three in the navy. The largest delegation went with the Two Hundred and Second Regiment, N. Y. Volunteer Infantry, which eventually was in service in Cuba. In the Two Hundred and Second Regiment were the following from Genesee county:

Batavia.—William Cope, Burnett F. Crowell, Frederick W. Griffis, Joseph A. Michaels and Mortimer E. Stringham of Company K; David L. Parsons, Otto Ackerman and Peter Crowley of Company H; Harry W. Dodge and Willis J. Rumsey of Company I.

Alexander.—Corporal Lucien B. Greene, George Harrison and Charles C. Baldwin of Company L; Howard Carroll of Company H.

Elba.—William H. Baube and Harvey Merrills of Company F; John F. Duggan of Company K.

Oakfield.—Charles L. Pinder, Zonooli Reed and Alfred Watts of Company I.

Pembroke.—Robert D. Owen, F. A. Redman and Peter Wolf of Company I.

Alabama.—Stanton E. Barrett of Company K.

Le Roy.—Charles H. Valentine of Company K.

Residents of Batavia who entered the Sixty-fifth Regiment, N. Y. Volunteers were: Frank S. Holden, quartermaster's clerk; Robert D. Wallace, John B. Roy, James A. Boyd, J. F. Haller, George W. Fotch, privates, Company D; Roger Donoghue, cook, Company K; William H. Coon, flute player, regimental band. Elba was represented by George Swartz, company clerk, and Frank Eckert, private. Albert

Murray Steel of Batavia was a corporal in Company H of the Third New York. Arthur Beals of Alabama and Morton S. Rundel of Oakfield were also members of the Third Regiment. Stephen Moll of Batavia, John D. Toll of Bethany and Richmond L. Rathbone of Oakfield served in the navy, the latter as an assistant engineer, with the rank of ensign. Miss Minnie E. Bates of Batavia went out as nurse, and for some time was located at Fort McPherson, Ga.

Former Genesee county men who served in the Sixty-fifth Regiment were: J. Wesley Jewell, William Bentley, Harry W. Diepold, William A. Town, formerly of Batavia; Captain George H. Norton, formerly of Pembroke; James McPartlin, formerly of Bergen; Lieutenant Nelson T. Barrett, formerly of Alabama. Other former Genesee county men who served in the army were: Roscoe D. Ives, formerly of Batavia, Seventy-first Regiment N. Y. Vols.; Peter Reagan, formerly of Batavia, First Battalion of Engineers, Cleveland, O., Grays; Charles L. Brockway, formerly of South Byron, captain of Company F., First Regiment, South Dakota Vols.; Frank N. Robinson, formerly of Batavia, second lieutenant, First Separate Battalion, District of Columbia Vols.; Charles Anthony, formerly of North Oakfield, Thirteenth N. Y. Vol. Infantry. Arthur Carlisle of Le Roy accompanied one of the expeditions to the Philippine Islands as a soldier in the infantry. Joseph F. Hall of Batavia accompanied the Sixty-fifth Regiment as a newspaper correspondent. Color Sergeant Richard Silvey of the Marine Corps, who had the distinction of being the first to plant the American flag on Cuban soil at Guantanamo bay, was born in Oakfield.

There was great disappointment over the sudden termination of the war on the part of many of the zealous patriots who evinced such anxiety to see actual service. Not only was the disappointment experienced by those whose connection with the army has been noted, but also by hundreds of other inhabitants who stood ready to respond quickly to their country's call. April 7, 1898, Captain Lina Beecher of Batavia received instructions from the War Department to receive the names of men who desired to enlist in the Volunteer Cavalry Regiment to be organized in Genesee, Orleans and Monroe counties. April 11 he opened a recruiting station at No. 3 Jackson street in Batavia. A few days later the counties of Niagara, Wyoming and Allegany were embraced in the order. So enthusiastic were the young men of Genesee over the project that by April 20 three hundred and seventy-five names had been enrolled. April 20 a second recruiting station was opened in

Pembroke by First Lieutenant George W. Thayer. The whole number enrolled exceeded two thousand, who were offered either as cavalry or infantry. As early as April 6 the services of this organization had been tendered the adjutant-general of New York State by letter. April 26 Senator Humphrey of Warsaw, Wyoming county, went to Albany to urge the adjutant-general to accept the services of the command, but as the supply of men greatly exceeded the demand, the tender could not be accepted. The field officers in command of the regiment at this time were: Colonel, Lina Beecher of Batavia; lieutenant-colonel, W. B. Tallman of Perry; majors, M. J. Woodworth of Warsaw, J. A. Smith of Attica; surgeon, Dr. H. A. Morse of Batavia; assistant surgeon, Dr. B. F. Showerman of Batavia.

An accident resulting in the loss of eight human lives occurred on the New York Central Railroad at Winspeare bridge, near Corfu, on the morning of Tuesday, December 13, 1898. A body of men shoveling snow from the tracks stepped from one track to avoid a freight train, and an east bound passenger train dashed among them, instantly killing eight men and injuring four others. Those killed were John Warner and Henry Gunnison of Buffalo, and six men supposed to be Poles. All resided in Buffalo.

Churches.—During the entire period of the Civil war but three religious societies were organized. These were an Evangelical church in Batavia, one of the same denomination in Pembroke, and an Advent church in Darien.

A society of the Evangelical Association was organized in the village of Batavia, by the Rev. M. Pfitzinger, February 20, 1862. The first church building was erected on the corner of Ellicott and South Liberty streets, and was dedicated March 15, 1863, under the pastorate of the Rev. J. Siegrist. In the year 1871 this edifice was sold and the present brick structure erected on the corner of Center and School streets and dedicated September 28, 1872, the Rev. Theodore Schneider having charge at the time. During the pastorate of the Rev. C. A. Wiessemann 1879-81, a parsonage was built on Center street next to the church. Both the church and parsonage have undergone extensive repairs. The following ministers have had charge of the church: M. Pfitzinger, F. Klein, Theodore Schneider, C. F. Boller, Philip Bahn, J. Siegrist, J. Greneback, Philip Miller, C. A. Wiessemann, G. Gelsner, L. Hermann, William Mentz, F. E. Her, G. F. Buesch, S. B. Kraft, H. A. Schneider.

The Advent Church of God was organized at North Darien, January

16, 1864, by Elder C. W. Low. The original membership was forty. The Rev. A. C. Newell served the congregation as its first pastor. In 1867 the society built its first house of worship, which has since served for the purposes for which it was intended.

A church of the Evangelical Association was established at Indian Falls, in the town of Pembroke, in 1865, chiefly through the efforts of the Rev. John Siegrist, a member of the association. It began with sixteen members, and at the end of its first year built a church edifice at an expense of \$1,100. The society has enjoyed a steady growth since its formation. The Church of the Disciples of Christ was organized at Richville, in Pembroke, in 1867, by J. C. Goodrich. It started with seventy-five members and the Rev. W. H. Rogers as the first pastor. A house of worship was erected in 1868.

St. Mary's Roman Catholic church at East Pembroke was organized in 1868. Its first house of worship was erected in 1890. The corner stone was laid September 28, 1890, by the Rev. Father Barrett.

The Free Baptist church at Indian Falls, Pembroke, was founded June 13, 1869, with nine members. W. B. Hopkins was elected the first deacon, and still serves in that office. The house of worship was completed and dedicated in 1878. Some of the records have been lost, but as nearly as can be learned these pastors have served the society: Revs. J. F. Smith, L. Johnson, M. H. Blackman, W. H. Peck, O. B. Buifum, D. M. L. Rollin, H. N. Plumb, G. Donnocker, F. O. Dickey, F. L. Foster, S. W. Schoonover, W. W. Holt, E. L. Graves, A. J. Osborn and E. Jones, the present pastor.

In 1870 the Presbyterians of Alabama organized a mission, under Asher Wright. They subsequently erected an edifice costing two thousand dollars. In the same town a mission of the M. E. church was organized in 1888 by the Rev. S. S. Ballou.

The Episcopal church in Bergen was organized as a mission in June, 1872, by the Rev. E. L. Wilson. In 1874 Mrs. Cynthia L. Richmond gave to the trustees of the parochial fund of the diocese a deed of a lot as a memorial to her late husband, Dean Richmond, upon which the ceremony of laying the corner stone of the new church was held June 6, 1874, Bishop Coxe presiding. The structure was dedicated January 6, 1875, and consecrated June 15, 1880. The church is known as St. John's.

A number of the German inhabitants of Batavia met and organized the society known as St. Paul's German United Evangelical church

April 20, 1873. The first pastor chosen to preside over the congregation was the Rev. George Field, and the first officers of the society were: President, John Friedly; treasurer, Martin Wolfley; secretary, Louis Uebele. In the following year a Methodist Episcopal church was erected by the society at Darien Centre.

In May, 1876, the first Episcopal services were held by the Rev. Jay Cooke at Corfu. The denomination continued to grow in that town, and June 14, 1880, the corner stone of a church costing three thousand dollars was laid. The society is the outgrowth of a mission started at Corfu by the members of St. James's Episcopal church of Batavia. All Souls' Union church at Corfu was organized in July, 1881, by the Rev. C. C. Richardson, with about twenty-five members. Mr. Richardson became the first pastor, and through his efforts a house of worship costing four thousand dollars was erected during the first year of the society's history.

In January, 1885, the First Freewill Baptist church of Batavia was organized. Four years later a church structure was built at a cost of about ten thousand dollars. The society had its inception in a meeting held in Odd Fellows' hall September 28, 1884, at which the Rev. J. H. Durkee presided.

November 1, 1886, the Rev. Carl Stocker, Lewis Shultz, Carl Bloom, John Harloff, Gottlieb Wayback and Fred Harloff organized the German M. E. church of Oakfield, which started with thirty members and the Rev. Carl Stocker as pastor. A frame house of worship was erected in 1886 at a cost of about two thousand dollars.

The Evangelical Lutheran Concordia Congregational church of Byron Centre was founded May 5, 1887, by Rev. Voegele of Le Roy, as the Evangelical Lutheran Trinitatis Congregation. August 25, 1889, the Rev. L. Gross became the first pastor. The church was incorporated under its present name October 24, 1889, and the house of worship was dedicated December 18 of the same year. The pastors have been: Rev. L. Gross, 1889-1891; P. F. Becker, 1892-1893; August Stein and ——— Euchler 1894; Otto Poesche, 1895; E. F. Holls, 1895-1898; August Klein, 1898.

The Evangelical Lutheran St. Paul's church of East Oakfield was founded in 1891 by the Rev. G. Bartling of Medina, N. Y., and incorporated in the same year. November 22, 1891, the church was dedicated. The trustees at that time were C. Voss, C. Pasel and Fr. Beck. The Rev. G. Mühlhäuser of Roseville, Mich., the first pastor, was called

January 30, 1892. He was succeeded August 13, 1893, by the Rev. E. F. Hollis of Bayonne, N. Y. The present pastor, the Rev. A. B. Klein, succeeded Mr. Hollis in August, 1898. This society, and that at Byron Centre became connected with the Synod of Missouri in 1894.

The Roman Catholic church at South Byron was erected through the efforts of the Rev. Father Kean of Bergen, and dedicated July 26, 1892, by Bishop Ryan of Buffalo.

The German Evangelical Lutheran Salem church at Le Roy was founded March 23, 1895. The house of worship was consecrated July 21 of that year, the principal address on that occasion being delivered by the Rev. G. Helmkamp of Rochester. August Dringeman is president of the society, and the Rev. Karl Edward Wenzel is pastor.

The Catholic church at Corfu was built in 1898 through the efforts of the Rev. Father F. L. Burns of East Pembroke.

CHAPTER XV.

DEDICATION OF THE HOLLAND LAND COMPANY'S OFFICE AS A HISTORICAL MUSEUM.

An event which marked an epoch in the history of Genesee county occurred October 13, 1894, when the ancient office of the Holland Land Company, located on West Main street in the village of Batavia, was dedicated as a historical museum. The occurrence was a most noteworthy one, and called to the county seat many distinguished personages from all parts of the country.

The first sign of interest shown by the public in the project for the saving and restoration of the old building was a special meeting of Upton Post, G. A. R., held in Batavia on the evening of Friday, July 28, 1893, for the purpose of taking action toward this end. At this meeting the members of that body resolved that an attempt should be made to obtain possession of the structure and place it in possession of a historical society.

On the evening of Tuesday, August 1, 1893, a number of Batavia's representative citizens assembled at the rooms of the board of education to take further action in the matter. Daniel W. Tomlinson, president

of the Bank of Batavia, explained the object of the meeting and called for suggestions. After a general discussion of the matter, on motion of Dr. J. W. Le Seur a committee consisting of William C. Watson, Daniel W. Tomlinson, John H. Ward, Prof. John Kennedy and Carlos A. Hull was appointed to formulate a plan of action and devise means to secure the building. The matter drifted on for over a month, but on the afternoon of September 18 the committee decided to raise by popular subscription a sum sufficient to purchase the building—two thousand dollars—making the minimum subscriptions one dollar and the maximum ten dollars. Soon after an option was secured on the property for one thousand eight hundred and fifty dollars, the option to expire October 20, 1893. The plan of the citizens' committee was to raise eight hundred and fifty dollars, paying that amount in cash and giving a mortgage for the balance. The members having charge of the subscription papers pushed matters vigorously, but up to within a week before the expiration of the option but five hundred dollars had been secured. The balance, however, was soon pledged, and on the morning of November 13, 1893, a deed was filed in the county clerk's office conveying to Daniel W. Tomlinson the Land Office property, the consideration being one thousand eight hundred and fifty dollars. From that time subscriptions continued to pour in, each one making the donor a charter member of the Holland Purchase Historical Society.

A meeting was held on Friday, January 12, 1894, to discuss the details preparatory to drawing up articles of association, constitution and by-laws. February 6 incorporation papers were prepared to be sent to Albany. It was decided that the society should be known as the Holland Purchase Historical Society, and officers were elected as follows:

President, Mrs. Mary E. Richmond; vice president, William C. Watson; recording secretary, Herbert P. Woodward; corresponding secretary and librarian, Arthur E. Clark; treasurer, Levant C. McIntyre; managers, Gad B. Worthington, George Bowen, Frank B. Redfield, John Kennedy, Mrs. Adelaide R. Kenny, John H. Ward, Daniel W. Tomlinson, Julian J. Washburn and George D. Weaver.

July 17 Vice-President Watson named a general committee to prepare a programme for the dedication. This committee consisted of the following:

Dr. J. W. Le Seur, chairman; Hon. Safford E. North, Frank S. Wood, Daniel W. Tomlinson, Hinman Holden, Dr. H. J. Burkhardt, Louis B. Lane, J. J. Patterson, E. A.

Washburn, A. W. Caney, John H. Yates, John H. Ward, Frank B. Redfield, F. A. Lewis, John McKenzie, A. W. Skelley, Fred H. Dunham, C. A. Snell, D. D. Lent, C. R. Winslow, A. E. Clark, R. S. Lewis, W. E. Webster, Dr. Ward B. Whitecomb, G. S. Griswold, J. A. Le Seur, John M. Hamilton, A. J. McWain, William C. Watson, J., H. Bradish, J. F. Hall, B. R. Wood, J. C. Barnes, Nelson Bogue, W. D. Sanford, H. T. Miller, C. W. Hough, D. Armstrong, Dr. C. L. Baker, F. E. Richardson, A. D. Scatcherd, M. H. Peck, jr., C. Pratt, E. A. Dodgson, Delos Dodgson, C. H. Dolbeer, Rev. J. H. Durkee, S. Masse, Rev. Thomas P. Brougham, Arthur Ferris, Rev. C. A. Johnson, Carlos A. Hull, John Dellinger, S. A. Sherwin, W. T. Eager, H. O. Bostwick, John Glade and J. W. Holmes.

Hon. Robert A. Maxwell of Batavia, then fourth assistant postmaster-general, from the outset had manifested great interest in the project. Soon after the organization of the historical society he began to interest his friends in President Cleveland's cabinet in the forthcoming dedication, with the idea of securing their attendance. Therefore, when Judge Safford E. North, representing the society, visited Washington on August 23, 1894, to see Secretary Carlisle, who had virtually promised to deliver the dedicatory address, and have a date fixed for the ceremony, he found the way made easy for him. Judge North, in company with Mr. Maxwell, visited other cabinet officers, several of whom promised to accompany Secretary Carlisle. Arrangements for the dedication were then perfected as speedily as possible.

Those who first proposed the preservation and enlisted in the movement resulting in the dedication had in mind an unostentatious transfer of the Land Office property to a society organized to hold and maintain it. The old structure was considered to have a historic value as the office where the sales of lands to the early settlers were consummated. It was the office whence deeds of the pioneers' lands were issued, and where the original purchasers from the Holland speculators paid their money for their possessions; and these facts attached to it an interest that seemed sufficient to warrant it being held in veneration. Prof. John Kennedy, superintendent of schools in Batavia, became engrossed in the subject, however, and in a number of admirably written articles, the first appearing in the *News* of July 29, 1893, connected Robert Morris of Revolutionary fame with the old office, through his sale to the Hollanders of the greater part of the territory west of the Genesee river. These articles attracted considerable attention, and when the Land Office finally was secured by the Historical society Prof. Kennedy's suggestion that it be dedicated to the memory of Robert Morris and made a National affair, by reason of its consecration to his memory, being a tribute to the first financial officer of the Federal Government, was in its main parts favorably acted upon.¹

On the day set for the dedication, thousands of visitors thronged the streets of Batavia. The parade held in the morning was the largest

¹ Batavia Daily News, October 13, 1891

and most imposing ever seen in Genesee county. Practically all interests—industrial, religious, educational and civic—were represented. Upon passing the historical Land Office the column was reviewed by officers of the day and distinguished guests, including the orator of the day. Here the tablet erected to the memory of Robert Morris was unveiled by Hon. Walter Q. Gresham, secretary of state, and a dedicatory prayer delivered by the Rt. Rev. Stephen Vincent Ryan, bishop of the Catholic diocese of Buffalo. The order of the parade was as follows:

Advanced guard of mounted men under command of W. L. Colville; aids, George Douglass, L. A. Terry and M. S. Dunlap.

Marshal, James A. Le Seur; chief of staff, I. D. Southworth; adjutant, L. L. Crosby; orderlies, J. F. Read and Burt Williams; marshal's staff, C. S. Pugsley, A. D. Lawrence, Collis Samis, Asher Davis, Harry Ames, Frank Harris, William Torrance, Roy Barringer, George Parish, Frank Lusk and William Lusk.

First Division.

G. W. Stanley, assistant marshal; W. W. Plato, Dwight Dimock and Walter Chad-dock, aids.

Sixty-fifth Regiment Band and Drum Corps.

National Guard.

G. A. R. Posts.

Sons of Veterans.

Continental Drum Corps.

High School Cadets.

Clerks from Erie County Clerk's Office.

Indian Band.

Indians.

Second Division.

Captain Timothy Lynch, assistant marshal; James McMannis, John Leonard, William Burnes and P. Buckley, aids.

Select Knights' Band.

C. M. B. A.

C. E. L.

A. O. H.

Le Roy Total Abstinence Society.

St. Aloysius Society.

Third Division.

F. Lewis, assistant marshal; Ira Howe, William H. Walker and I. W. White, aids.
Citizens' Band.

Johnston Harvester Company.

Wiard Plow Works.

Ott_&_Fox.

Batavia Wheel Works.
 Wood Working Company.
 Cope Brothers.
 L. Uebele.

Fourth Division.

C. H. Reynolds, assistant marshal; Woleott Van De Bogart, C. B. Avery, Edward Moulthrop, aids.
 Le Roy Band.
 Le Roy Chemical Engine Company.
 Bergen Fire Department.
 I. O. O. F.
 A. O. U. W.
 Turners.
 School Children.

Fifth Division.

G. A. Wheeler, assistant marshal, R. J. Page, Lewis Johnston, George Constable, aids.
 Bergen Band.
 Pioneers in Carriages.
 Officers in Carriages.

The exercises at the State Institution for the Blind in the afternoon were impressive and interesting. The programme carried out was as follows:

Selections by the Sixty-fifth Regiment band; music, "To Thee, O Country." chorus; prayer, by Rt. Rev. Arthur Cleveland Coxe, bishop of Western New York; music, "Zion, Awake," chorus; dedication poem by John H. Yates, read by the author; music, "O Columbia, Columbia Beloved," from Lucretia Borgia, chorus; address, Hon. John G. Carlisle, secretary of the treasury; music, "America," chorus; closing prayer and benediction by Rev. Philos G. Cook, the oldest clergyman on the Holland Purchase.

Perhaps no better idea of the life and services of Robert Morris can be gained than from the address delivered by the Hon. John G. Carlisle. Such extracts of that memorable address as are deemed appropriate in this connection follow:

Robert Morris, or, as he was sometimes called, Robert Morris, jr., was for many years one of the conspicuous figures in the galaxy of great men whose statesmanship and courage achieved the independence of the American colonies, and to him more than to any other man in a civil station, the people were indebted for the successful termination of the Revolutionary war. . . .

It is alike creditable to the patriotism and the liberality of the citizens of Western

New York that they have organized the first public association and inaugurated the first practical movement for the purpose of paying a long deferred tribute to the memory of a man who, notwithstanding all the malignant accusations made against him while in the public service, has left a record in which the critical researches of a hundred years have failed to discover a trace of dishonor, or any lack of unselfish devotion to the true interests of his countrymen. . . .

Robert Morris was born at Liverpool, England, on the 31st day of January, new style, and, according to a statement in his father's will, came to America in the year 1748. . . .

By a contract, or treaty, entered into at Hartford on the 16th day of December, 1786, between commissioners of the State of New York and the State of Massachusetts, the conflicting claims of the two States to certain territory west of a line drawn northwesterly from the eighty-second milestone on the boundary of Pennsylvania to Lake Ontario, except a strip one mile wide the length of the Niagara river on its east side, were adjusted, Massachusetts ceding to New York full sovereignty and jurisdiction over the land, and New York yielding to Massachusetts the pre-emption or proprietary right. The tract thus described was supposed to contain about six million acres. In 1788 the State of Massachusetts sold all the land to Phelps and Gorham, but they failed to pay the whole purchase money and in March, 1791, re-conveyed about 3,750,000 acres to the State. On the 12th of March, 1791, the State sold to Samuel Ogden, who was acting for Robert Morris, all the land, excepting one million acres, or thereabouts, which Phelps and Gorham had paid for and retained. This purchase embraced all Western New York west of a line which corresponds, substantially, with the Genesee river, or, in other words, nearly all that part of the State west of Rochester. In 1792 and 1793 Morris sold 3,400,000 acres of this land to the Holland Land Company, but the conveyances were at first made to other parties, probably on account of the alienage of the Hollanders. Afterwards, however, conveyances were made direct to the individuals composing the company, of which Wilhelm Willink, through whom one of the public loans in Holland had been negotiated while Morris was Superintendent of the Finances, appears to have been the president. After this purchase a colony of Germans, consisting of seventy families, was formed at Hamburg and sent over to settle on the land. They were furnished with tools and put to work to construct a road from Northumberland to Genesee, but, having come mainly from cities, they were unaccustomed to such labor and the settlement finally broke up in a riot. After this, an office was opened by the company and the land was sold and conveyed in parcels to suit purchasers until 1839, when its affairs were closed. In 1802 its office was removed to Batavia, and in 1804 the building which you are here to day to dedicate to the memory of Robert Morris, was erected, and for more than a third of a century the titles to the homes of the people who now inhabit the counties of Erie, Chautauqua, Cattaraugus and Niagara, except the Indian reservations, and nearly all the counties of Orleans, Genesee, Wyoming and Allegany were prepared and executed within its walls. Thus it is that nearly every home in the western part of the beautiful valley which suggested the Indian name of the river which flows through it, is connected with the name of Robert Morris, and, though all others may neglect his memory, and even forget the name of the great financier of the Revolution, his fame will live on in this historic region as long as the people love the land on which their children were born and in which their fathers sleep.

Morris's pecuniary affairs grew worse from day to day, and finally his creditors became so importunate that he was compelled to remain constantly in his home to avoid them. They watched his house, even at night, and lighted fires on his premises in order that he might be intercepted if he attempted to escape. One of them, a Frenchman, went so far as to threaten to shoot him if he made his appearance at the window. In January or February, 1798, he was committed to a debtor's prison, where he remained for more than three years and a half. It was his habit, while confined, to walk around the prison yard fifty times each day and drop a pebble at the completion of each circuit in order to keep the count. During the hardest of his misfortunes he never became despondent or uttered a complaint, except to express his profound regret that he was unable to discharge his honest obligations. He never referred to the great service he had rendered his country, or appealed to the sympathy or charity of the public, but silently submitted to unjust accusations, to prolonged imprisonment and to the indifference and ingratitude of his countrymen with the heroic fortitude of a great and noble mind.

No period of his long and honorable career better illustrates the stalwart and independent character of the man than those closing years of his life. He had stood on the very pinnacle of fame and listened to the enthusiastic plaudits of his emancipated countrymen and had received even the forced homage of their defeated antagonists. He had been the confidential adviser and trusted agent of the government, when a serious mistake would have been fatal to its existence, and had proved his statesmanship and patriotism by the wisdom of his counsels and the cheerful sacrifice of his personal interests. He had been the bosom friend of Washington and nearly all of the great Americans whose names have come down to us from the last half of the eighteenth century and had been the peer of the greatest among them. He had lived in luxury and had at his command all that wealth and political influence and official station could procure; but now he was broken in fortune, imprisoned for debt, denounced as a reckless speculator, separated from his old personal friends and ungenerously neglected by the government and the people he had served so long and so well. But he endured it all without a murmur, and after his release from prison went uncomplainingly to his dismantled home, and by the practice of close economy managed to live in a tolerably comfortable condition, for which he was mainly indebted to the Holland Land Company, which paid to Mrs. Morris as long as she lived an annuity of \$1,500.

Morris died on the 8th day of May, 1806, in the seventy-third year of his age, and was buried in a little churchyard on Second street in Philadelphia, where his remains now rest, with no monument over them except an ordinary stone slab. The great country which he helped to rescue from the domination of its oppressors has grown rich and powerful under the constitution he helped to frame; the three million people whose liberties he helped to establish, have multiplied until they largely outnumber the population of the mother land; the thirteen feeble States on the shores of the Atlantic, which he helped to unite under a compact of perpetual peace and mutual protection, have become the progenitors of a mighty sisterhood of prosperous commonwealths, whose confines are limited only by their western seas; and still, no obelisk rises to tell the story of his great services, his unselfish patriotism, his honorable life, and its melancholy close.

Following is the dedication poem written for the occasion by John H. Yates of Batavia and read by him:

When to the banks of Jordan's rolling tide
 The hosts of God from far o'er Egypt came—
 With cloudy pillar their long march to guide,
 Past Sinai's awful mount of smoke and flame,
 They found no passage the dark waters o'er,
 No way to cross the overflowing stream,
 And Israel's warriors stood upon the shore
 But could not reach the Canaan of their dream.

Then Joshua, their leader, strong and true,
 Lifted his voice and soul to God in prayer,
 While angel hands the billows backward threw,
 And made a passage for God's people there.

The ark of God moved on at his command,
 And forward moved the host o'er Jordan's bed;
 Their feet as dry as when, through burning sand,
 Their weary way the cloudy pillar led.

Then reared they high a monument of stone,
 To tell to generations yet unborn
 How he, the King of Kings, on throne of thrones,
 Held back the waters on that glorious morn.

In after years, when sunny youth inquired
 "What mean these stones?" the gray-haired fathers told
 The story that again their bosoms fired,
 The story of deliv'rances of old.

Before us stands this monument of ours,
 That hath these many years the storms withstood;
 Reared 'mid the perfumes of the forest flowers,
 In shadows cast by monarchs of the wood.

Reared on the banks of Ton-a-wan-da's stream,
 Which, fed by living springs and rippling rills,
 Winds down the vale as gentle as a dream,
 From the blue domes of the Wyoming hills.

Reared at the junction of two Indian trails,
 Where chieftains met to seal some white man's doom;
 Where war cries mingled with the night-wind's wails
 And council fires lit up the forest's gloom.

To-day, when sunny youth of us inquires
 "What mean these stones?" we stop with pride to tell
 Of wonders wrought by high Ambition's fires,
 And honest toil, o'er every hill and dell.

As sea shells sing forever of the sea,
 Though borne inland a thousand miles away,
 So do these walls give forth to you and me
 The sounds and songs of our forefathers' day.

I hear the echo of the woodman's stroke
 Resounding through the aisles of forest gray;
 The crash of giant elm and sturdy oak,
 As they for towns and fertile fields make way.

I hear the stage horn's blast at close of day,
 The wheels that rumble o'er the rugged road,
 While feeding deer affrighted speed away,
 To tangled thickets of their wild abode.

I hear the postman as he hastens here
 From forest openings, where the blue smoke curled,
 O'er winding pathways, desolate and drear,
 Where now are beaten highways of the world.

The breaking twigs in thicket dense I hear,
 Where stealthy panther creeps upon his prey;
 The victim's struggle and his cries of fear,
 Which fainter grow, and die, at last, away.

I hear the whirring of the spinning wheel,
 The crackling of the logs on fireplace bright,
 The scythe stone grinding on the blade of steel,
 The owl complaining through the lonely night.

I hear the merriments of olden times,
 The apple-parings and the husking bees;
 The laughter ringing out like merry chimes
 From rustic haunts beneath the forest trees.

"What mean these stones?" They tell of honest men,
 Who lived in years now flown away,
 Who toiled for us with hammer, plow and pen,
 From rosy morn until the evening gray.

Their grandest castles, builded in the air,
 When they at noon sought rest in shady dell,
 Were not, though fancy painted, half so fair
 As these in which their children's children dwell.

We now enjoy the fruitage of their toil,
 From where the Genesee's bright waters flow,
 To where Niag'ra's billows in turmoil
 Plunge o'er the precipice to depths below.

All honor to those noble men who laid
 The firm foundation of our wealth and pride!
 They rest to-day beneath the maple's shade,
 All undisturbed by traffic's surging tide.

OUR COUNTY AND ITS PEOPLE.

O, could they wake from slumber of the tomb,
 What changes would they note beneath these skies
 A wilderness transformed to Eden bloom,
 With wonders everywhere to greet their eyes.

What though their forms have crumbled into dust,
 Their deeds shall shine resplendent as the sun;
 What though their plowshares are consumed by rust,
 The work they wrought will never be undone.

All honor to that man who forward came
 In "times that tried men's souls," long years ago,
 And gave his wealth and pledged his spotless name,
 To drive forever from our shores the foe.

The memory of Morris long shall stand,
 With honor crowned beneath these sunny skies;
 The sons and daughters of our favored land
 Will not forget his love and sacrifice.

'Twas he who wakened from their wild repose
 These hills and valleys, stretching far away,
 That now unfold their beauty like the rose
 That gives its dew drops to the kiss of Day.

When armies faltered for the lack of bread,
 When bugles ceased to call and drums to beat,
 He came with patriot heart and hasty tread,
 And laid his millions at his country's feet.

Freedom's immortal Declaration bears
 The name of Morris on its sacred page;
 With changing years his record brighter wears,
 While granite crumbles at the touch of Age.

Then dedicate this structure to his name,
 While music sweet floats out upon the air.
 The walls shall to the earth speak forth his fame,
 And this fair valley shall be still more fair.

As sea shells sing forever of the sea,
 Bear them away from ocean where thou wilt,
 So shall ye sing, O walls, through years to be,
 Of great success on firm foundation built.

The storms and tempests of the rolling years
 Have beat thy granite walls by night and day,
 Yet thou hast stood, amid man's hopes and fears,
 To see the hands that made thee mould away.

Thou shalt remain to bid this land rejoice,
 Till these fair youths who gaze upon thee now

Shall speak thy praises with a trembling voice,
 When hoary hairs adorn each wrinkled brow.
 The waves of progress which have swept away
 Thy brother landmarks, built of wood or stone,
 Broke at thy feet and vanished into spray,
 And left thee, gray old monarch, here—alone.
 "A thing of beauty" thou hast always stood,
 "A thing of beauty" thou shalt ever stand,
 At first the glory of the lonely wood,
 But now the glory of the teeming land.
 Sing on, O walls, though years their changes bring,
 Sing on while all the bells of progress chime,
 Sing of the past, of future glory sing,
 While thy quaint form defies the march of time!

The chorus which participated in the exercises of the day consisted of about a hundred voices under the direction of Prof. E. F. Crane, as follows:

Sopranos—Mrs. E. Kirby Calkins, Mrs. I. E. Mecorney, Mrs. W. R. Durfee, Mrs. Frederick H. Fargo, Mrs. P. Welch, Mrs. Charles Scott, Mrs. Sarah Peck, Mrs. C. B. Peck, Mrs. Bessie Carpenter, Mrs. Kate Crosby, Mrs. Lounsbury, Mrs. B. H. Bean, Mrs. Preston Case, Mrs. George Crofoot, Mrs. Lord, and Misses Ella Hirsch, Ida Kellar, Miriam Kellar, Emily Carr, Mary A. Lewis, E. Alice Smith, Edna King, Bessie Kellar, Emily Hartshorn, Gracia Morse, Minnie Ingersol, Frankie Ingersol, Cornelia Brownell, Rachael McNab, Mertie McNab, Lizzie Shepard, Ada Mockford, E. Maud Baker, Edith M. Knapp, Mertie Knapp, Grace Perkins, Lillian Hatch, Jessie Wallace, Cora J. Gardner, Alice Parmelee, Ora Rapp, Mary Poultridge, Mary Maltby, Ruth Benjamin, H. A. Langdon, Adelle Clark, Eva Milward, E. F. Wood, Nellie Day.

Contraltos—Mrs. W. C. Gardiner, Mrs. E. E. Leavenworth, Mrs. F. A. Lewis, Mrs. Clara Mills, and Misses Lottie Rogers, Mary Milward, Helen M. Iveson, Cora W. Palmer, Gertrude Cardus, Bertha L. Johnson, Agnes C. Rimmer, Hattie Hartshorn, Jean Brownell, Louise H. Morse, Nellie McNair, Blanche Lewis, Fannie Stanley.

Tenors—J. T. Whitcomb, Frank E. Howe, Clarence Meserve, George Mower, A. H. Plock, S. P. Stephens, E. I. Nott, Edward Gamble, Charles B. Peck, F. C. Chadwick, F. A. Lewis.

Bassos—Henry Chiswell, Matthew Robinson, William Mills, E. H. Perry, William C. Gardiner, C. A. Snell, Rev. Thomas Cardus, Lucius

A. Parmelee, John C. Squires, Frederick H. Fargo, E. E. Leavenworth, George W. Pratt, Myron A. Pratt, Myron A. Williams, W. H. Kearns, John Skehan, Harry C. Norton, Thomas Trick, Wilbur Trick.

Lunch was served in the corridors of Hotel Richmond at one o'clock p. m. Among the guests who sat at the table were Robert Morris of Johnsonburg, Pa., a great-grandson of Robert Morris; S. Fisher Morris of Eckman, W. Va., also a great-grandson of the distinguished patriot; Mrs. Morris, a descendant of the family of George Washington; Mr. and Mrs. John B. Church of Geneva, the latter being a descendant of Robert Morris; Hon. Walter Q. Gresham, secretary of State; Hon. John G. Carlisle, secretary of the treasury; Hon. Daniel S. Lamont, secretary of war; Hon. Wilson S. Bissell, postmaster-general; Hon. Hilary A. Herbert, secretary of the navy; Hon. Hoke Smith, secretary of the interior; Hon. Frank Jones, first assistant postmaster-general; Hon. Thomas E. Benedict, public printer; and a number of other invited guests.

CHAPTER XVI.

THE VILLAGE OF BATAVIA.

Hon Joseph Ellicott was the founder of Batavia. Late in the summer of 1797 he came from Philadelphia to Genesee to attend a convention for the purpose of entering upon a treaty with the Indians at that place, when the lands west of the Genesee river were purchased from them by Robert Morris. In September of that year the treaty was concluded, and after having made arrangements for the survey of the Holland Company's lands, Mr. Morris returned to Philadelphia in the following February. In May, 1798, he again started for the Genesee country, accompanied by his brother, Benjamin Ellicott, and Ebenezer Cary. He arrived at Buffalo in June.

April 18, 1798, James Brisbane and John Thompson left Philadelphia with a supply of stores for Mr. Ellicott and the men who were to survey the Morris Purchase. May 15 they arrived at the mouth of the Genesee river, having traveled from Oswego in batteaux, via Lake Ontario. At this point Mr. Brisbane proceeded up the Genesee river



JOSEPH ELLICOTT.

to Williamsburgh, taking with him one batteau loaded with stores. Mr. Thompson proceeded westward on the lake until he reached the mouth of the Niagara river, whence he proceeded to Buffalo with the remainder of the stores. Mr. Brisbane remained at Williamsburgh, located between Mount Morris and Geneseo, until October, 1798, when he removed with the stores in his charge to what is now the village of Stafford. Headquarters were maintained here until January 2, 1800, when the entire party—consisting of Joseph and Benjamin Ellicott, Mr. Cary, Mr. Brisbane and James W. Stevens, started to return to Philadelphia. November 1 of that year Joseph Ellicott received the appointment of general agent for the great Holland Land Company. A few days afterward he returned to Buffalo, arriving there early in January, 1801. Late in that winter he removed to Ransom's Tavern, in what is now the town of Clarence, Erie county, where he opened an office for the disposal of the lands of the Holland Company.

At a very early date, probably before March, 1801, Mr. Ellicott determined to make the present site of Batavia the location for the land office of the company he represented, deeming it a fine location for the village he hoped to found.¹ As the fact became known, a number of persons visited the spot with a view to making it a place of residence. Among them was Abel Rowe, who arrived in March, 1801, and erected the first building in the village, on the lot directly opposite that selected for the site of the land office. The building, which was made of logs, was used for a tavern, and for some time was widely known as "Rowe's hotel." Soon afterward Stephen Russell erected a log house on the land subsequently occupied by the Genesee house.

It was the original intention of Mr. Ellicott to name the place Bustville or Bustia, in honor of Paul Busti, general agent of the Holland Land Company. He communicated the fact to Mr. Busti, but the latter entreated him to use another name, suggesting Ellicottstown; but Mr. Ellicott refused to honor himself in this manner, and announced that the place should be known as Tonnewanta. But this name evidently did not satisfy the founder of this village, for a few months later

¹ February 17, 1801, writing from Ransomville to Richard M. Stoddard at Cananlagna, Mr. Ellicott said: "I expect to make my establishment at or near the Bend of Tonnewanta, and there let the Genesee Road fork, one to be directed to Buffalo and the other to Queenston, and place my office in the fork looking Eastward." The "fork" subsequently became the site for the arsenal. In a letter to Stephen Russell at Bloomfield, written in May, 1801, he says: "I expect, shortly, to have all the Lots laid out at the Bend. Since I saw you I can eye it best to postpone them for the present, in order to attend to laying out a piece of Road before the leaves became so thick as to prevent us from seeing the country."

he began referring to it as Batavia, in accordance with a suggestion made by Mr. Busti. November 7, 1801, Mr. Ellicott wrote to Mr. Busti, dating the letter "Batavia."¹

One of the first steps taken by Mr. Ellicott after deciding to make "the Bend" his headquarters was the erection of a dam in the creek and a saw mill. The latter was completed about the middle of December, 1801, and kept in constant operation manufacturing planking and boards for the houses which were planned by the pioneers of Batavia.²

As there was no pine timber nearer the mill than at a point six miles distant, in the present town of Elba, Mr. Ellicott engaged Isaac Sutherland to cut a road to the Pinery (Pine Hill), and the work was begun January 18, 1802.

The first land office building was completed in December, 1801. It was a two-story log structure and was situated on the north side of West Main street, nearly opposite the site of the old land office now standing. Immediately after its completion this building was occupied by John Thompson and others in the employ of the company as a boarding place; but Mr. Ellicott did not remove his office from Ransom's until the spring of 1802.

February 20, 1802, John Lamberton was engaged by Mr. Ellicott to cut a public road through the village of Batavia. Lamberton, assisted by a man named Mayo, began the work the day following, cutting a road one hundred feet wide and two miles long, its western terminus being in front of the arsenal. This roadway, the clearing of which cost twelve dollars per acre, or about two hundred and ninety dollars, was completed in the following May. It at once became, and always has remained, the principal thoroughfare in Batavia—Genesee, now Main, street. The land now occupied by this street was at that time covered with timber. Mr. Lamberton's contract called for the cutting away of this timber and preparing it for logging. The road was constructed, probably, by the owners of lots fronting on the new street.

The necessity of a grist mill manifested itself at an early date. The first allusion to the enterprise is contained in letters from Mr. Ellicott to Mr. Busti, dated at Batavia, February 28, 1802, and forwarded by his

¹ In this letter Mr. Ellicott wrote: "In regard to the name of this place, it heretofore was called the Bend, from the circumstance of the Bend of the Creek, and is generally known by that name, but I have Baptized it by the Name of Batavia."

² This saw mill was torn down about 1822.

brother, Benjamin Ellicott.¹ This mill was not completed until late in the year 1804.

When the Holland Land Company mapped out the village of Batavia in 1801, they divided it into about one hundred lots. These lots had a frontage of twenty rods each on what is now Main street. They were marked from No. 1 up, the even numbers being on the north side of the street and the odd numbers on the south side. Each lot was intended to be one mile deep, and the extent of land covered in the original map was much larger than that of the present corporation. The western boundary line ran through the spot formerly occupied by the State arsenal. From what is now Jackson street to the court house the lots were subdivided, and in the original map did not contain as much land as the others. Main street was then called Batavia street west of the court house and Genesee street east of that point.

The first sale recorded on the old records, and doubtless the first sale of village property, was made January 1, 1802, the purchaser being Stephen Russell. The lot was bounded on the east by what is now State street, was of sufficient depth to comprise an area of eight and one-half acres, and was sold for five dollars per acre, or forty-two dollars and a half for the whole lot. A four-acre lot having a frontage on Main street was sold April 30, 1807, to James Cochran, also for five dollars per acre. The lot on what is now the west corner of Jackson and Main streets, extending west to a point about the centre of the old Holden store, was sold March 21, 1810, to Samuel Peck and Benjamin Blodgett, for one hundred and fifty dollars.

A contributor to the *Batavia Spirit of the Times* of April 29, 1882, thus describes the improvement of the sanitary condition of Batavia from 1800 to 1882:

The first settlers were prostrated with bilious, typhus, typhoid fevers, ague and fever, dysentery, jaundice, and all the aggravated disorders of the liver to such an extent that there were not enough of the well to take care of the sick. Sickness compelled many who had located here to leave. Many of the settlers from New England went to Wyoming county, where the surface of the country was hilly and the water was soft. Even in 1829 the ague and fever prevailed to such an extent that the usual fall militia drill and militia exercises were dispensed with. Malaria with its attendant diseases still prevailed to a very great extent and created the greater portion of the sickness of that time.

¹ In this letter Mr. Ellicott, after alluding to certain business matters to be explained by his brother, the writer says: "His object is also to procure such necessaries in the Lower Country, as will be required for the completion of the Grist Mill erecting on account of the Company, and also to procure if practicable, a good Mill-Wright to construct the running gear of said mill."

The early physicians of that day were David McCracken, Ephraim Brown, Winter Hewitt, John Cotes, Levant B. Cotes, Chester Bradford, John Z. Ross, Richard Dibble, Truman H. Woodruff, Charles E. Ford, who ranked high in their profession and were skilled in the treatment of the malarial diseases of the country. Their investigation of the causes and their story of the character of the prevailing diseases and their conviction of the urgent necessity for their prevention made them strong advocates of surface drainage as the only effectual safeguard against sickness. This period closed with the year 1830, with some modification and abatement in the malignant type of the disease.

The second term ranges from 1830 to 1860. During this time a marked change was produced, resulting from a thorough and more extensive system of surface drainage. The Tonawanda Railroad drained the ponds at Mount Lucy, and filled the streets along its line nearly three feet. The village authorities inaugurated an effective system of surface drainage on the north and south sides of Main street. The spring, fall and winter overflow of the creek was checked by raising the road and making a dyke along its banks at Toad Point. The genial rays of the sun evaporated the latent miasma from a soil freed from the stagnant waters. The plow and the spade lent a helping hand, and the village to a certain extent was liberated from the slimy pools of water which had hitherto dotted its surface. Still the medical faculty insisted that many instances of malarial disease were constantly occurring where the drainage was imperfect. Dr. John Cotes, Levant B. Cotes, Truman H. Woodruff, Charles E. Ford, Holton Ganson, John Root, John R. Cotes, O. P. Clark were the leading physicians of this period. A still more efficient mode of drainage was strongly advocated by all these medical men. They admitted that the sanitary condition of the place showed marked improvement, and that they were not obliged to resort to the violent remedies of former years.

The last term extends from 1860 to 1882. During this time another marked change has taken place. The system of surface drainage has been abandoned and the tile system has been adopted. The population of the village has doubled and houses have been erected in close proximity to each other. No sanitary restraints have been enforced in regard to the position of wells and outhouses, and the contents of water closets and house drainage are poured into closed tile sewers running to the creek, the grade of which is so small that it produces a sluggish and impeded movement of its slimy contents. The outlet empties into the creek at low water mark, subject to have its malarious germs swept back into every cellar during the high floods of the creek. Below the outlet the waters of the creek are polluted with the offensive sewage and exhale a pestiferous miasma, poisoning the atmosphere along its banks. This has produced a return to the malarious condition of the time from 1820 to 1830. Ague and fever, bilious, typhus and typhoid fevers, dysentery, disordered action of the liver have again reappeared, and with them that class of diseases engendered by sewer gas, diphtheria, scarlet fever, roseola, malarial fever, mental depression, loss of vitality, general lassitude and debility and all the various types of nervous maladies which are the marked characteristics resulting from the poisonous emanations of sewer gas. Among the physicians of the last term, Dr. Levant B. Cotes was the veteran survivor of all his compeers. Dr. Ganson followed next in seniority, than in succession John Root, John R. Cotes, O. P. Clark, N. G. Clark, L. L. Tozier, John F. Baker, H. S. Hutchins, Hamilton, Morse, Davidson, Rand, Walkinshaw and others.

It was almost entirely through the efforts of Mr. Ellicott that the county of Genesee was erected, with Batavia for a county seat. The population of the new village was increasing at a satisfactory rate, and the legislative act designating Batavia as the capital of the new county gave it a prestige which instantly proved most beneficial. Determined that the village which he had founded should enjoy the full benefits which naturally should follow its selection for this important purpose, Mr. Ellicott at once began plans for the erection of a court house and jail, having stipulated, in his agreement with the Legislature, that these buildings should be constructed at the expense of the Holland Land Company. In a letter to Mr. Busti, written May 8, 1802, he said:

I am happy in the promptness with which you have agreed to carry into effect the erection of the Court House and Jail, as stipulated to be erected at the expense of the Company, by Mr. D. A. Ogden and myself. This stipulation was one of the principal inducements towards our effecting the passage of the Law establishing the new County. This money I conceive to be well laid out, for had we not have procured this Act for establishing the County, and bounded it as we have fortunately done, the Company would, in all probability, have had to erect another Court House and Jail, as well as that at Canandaigua, at their expense, and in which they would have been but little benefited.

It was in contemplation by Mr. James Wadsworth, and interest was actually making for that purpose, so to divide the county of Ontario, as to make his residence in the town of Hartford [now Geneseo], on the Genesee River, the County town of a County. . . .

In regards to the Court House and Jail, your ideas perfectly accord with my own, in erecting them in such a maner as will be the most economical, and at the same time answer well the purposes intended. I have received a Plan from New York, which my friend, D. A. Ogden, was kind enough to procure from an Architect of that place. It is not, in my opinion, calculated for the meridian of this Western World, this Century, but might probably answer for the meridian of the cities of London or Amsterdam.

Mr. Ellicott engaged Isaac Sutherland and Samuel F. Geer as architects for the court house, which was to be built after his own plan, and of wood. The frame was set up about November 1. Its raising "was a Herculean task of three days, and in consequence of the sparseness of population, required all the men that could be mustered in the surrounding country, even from Buffalo. The timber was exceedingly heavy, being almost exclusively oak, and we are told that the workmanship was so perfect, as to elicit the admiration of every one who saw it. Not the slightest mistake was discoverable, and when the frame was put

together, every joint was as perfect as mallet and chisel could make it.'¹ Though the building was not completed until 1804, the work had progressed so far by the spring of 1803 that the first sessions of the courts after the organization of the county were held in it at the time last named.

The first frame building in the village was erected by Isaac Sutherland in the spring of 1802, about two months before the construction of the court house was begun. It stood west of the Presbyterian meeting house, and was occupied as a residence by Mr. Sutherland and his family. About the same time Mr. Sutherland and Samuel F. Geer built another frame house on the ground subsequently occupied by the Presbyterian church, intended for their own use as a joiner's shop.

In the spring of 1802 James Brisbane visited New York and purchased a stock of groceries, provisions and general wares with which to stock a store which he had arranged to conduct under the patronage of the agents of the Holland company. Arriving with his stock at Batavia about the middle of May, he rented the building which Sutherland and Geer had erected for use as a joiner's shop and at once began business as a merchant—the first in town. A few weeks later he purchased the building and occupied it until 1822, when it was removed to make room for the Presbyterian meeting house.

Several other improvements were made in 1802. During the summer of that year William Munger erected the west part of what afterward became the Keyes house, which he conducted as a tavern. He was succeeded by Mr. Rowe, and then by William Keyes, under whose management it became the principal hotel in the village. About the same time Mr. Ellicott erected a frame building for use as a land office, tearing down the original log building and moving the records of the office into the new one about January 1, 1803. This building was afterward altered and became a portion of the residence occupied for many years by D. E. Evans. Stephen Russell also erected a two-story frame building as an annex to his log tavern, on the site which afterward was occupied by the Genesee house. It will thus be seen that the development of the village of Batavia was progressing at a most satisfactory rate as early as 1802.

The indomitable energy and public spirit of the founder of Batavia is everywhere in evidence. On every possible occasion he promoted the welfare of the village. All legitimate enterprises were encouraged

¹ Historical Sketch of the Village of Batavia, by William Seaver. 1849.

by him in a practical way and he was never slow to take the initiative when he believed the young village would be benefited by his projected act. May 15, 1802, he addressed to Gideon Granger, postmaster-general, a petition for the establishment of a post-office at Batavia, and recommending the appointment of James Brisbane as postmaster. In his petition Mr. Ellicott said:

Although I cannot flatter the Post Master General with much augmentation to the revenue which may arise from an establishment of this kind, yet as the country is fast settling, and the Land Office is kept here for the sale of a large extent of country, there is little doubt but that in a short period, a considerable revenue will arise from this establishment, as well as be productive of great convenience to the inhabitants.

The postmaster-general promptly appointed Mr. Brisbane postmaster; but there already being a post-office named Batavia in Greene county, the new office was designated Genesee Court House. The commission for the first postmaster was dated July 21, 1802, and the following month he entered upon the discharge of his duties, maintaining the office in his store. The mail was carried once in two weeks, either on foot or on horseback. The route west was from Canandaigua to Batavia, Lewiston and Fort Niagara, and eastward from Fort Niagara to Niagara Falls, Buffalo, Williamsville, Van Deventer's, the Indian Village, Batavia and Canandaigua and other points east. Soon afterward the increasing population warranted the establishment of a weekly mail from Canandaigua to Buffalo direct, Batavia being a post on the route.

An idea of the population of Batavia, and of Genesee county, in 1802, may be gained from a statement made in a letter written by Mr. Ellicott to Seth Pease May 15, 1802:

As you were acquainted with this part of the country before any settlement took place, it may not be altogether uninteresting to be informed of the number of votes given in at this village last election, for Members of Congress, which will be some data to form an opinion of the progress of settlement.

Oliver Phelps, Esq., Republican, 50 votes.

Nat. W. Howell, Esq., anti-Republican, 1 vote.

In this county, (Genesee), in consequence of the sparse settlements, not more than one third of the people could with any convenience attend the election polls, therefore we only voted 133, of which 117 were Republican and for Oliver Phelps, and the residue for Nat. W. Howell, so that it appears this county may be styled Republican.

The organization of Genesee county took place in 1803. The first court was held in the new court house June 14, when Richard Smith was admitted to practice as an attorney and counselor. November 8

the second court was held, at which Daniel B. Brown was admitted to practice.

During the early days of the village a favored few were permitted to purchase from twenty to forty acres of land fronting on Genesee, now Main, street, running back one mile in length. These had all been well schooled in the arbitrary doctrines of a landed aristocracy, the political creed of Joseph Ellicott. For years these men held their broad acres undiminished by a sale. They were hostile to the idea of any street parallel to Main, which they would have considered an invasion of their sacred rights. They held their corn and pasture lands for their own pleasure and convenience, claiming that the public had no right to sacrifice them for highway purposes; that public necessities were subject to their private interests. As a natural consequence Main street was filled with handsome residences. For years all taxes and improvements were lavished upon that broad thoroughfare. The result was that a residence upon that fine avenue became, to a certain extent, the arbiter of social position.

In the original village plot, as planned by Joseph Ellicott, all the streets converge at the bridge. He designed that the business part of the village should be built around the mill site and west on the banks of the creek. The business location was largely determined by the low prices at which Stephen Russell sold his subdivisions of lots 20 and 22. The first new street to be opened by the necessities of the pioneers was Mechanic street, now State. Then followed Center, then Bank, Liberty, Summit, South Liberty, Evans, Swan and Ross. They were generally occupied and built upon before they were legally opened as highways, becoming streets from the demands of a growing population and not in conformity to any plan laid down in the original village plot. North street was the only parallel street on the north side of Main. It was opened as a highway in 1842 and 1843. Ellicott avenue was laid out by the State.

The year 1807 was noteworthy by reason of the establishment of a printing office in the village, the press used being the first ever seen west of the Genesee river. Soon after the opening of the office the first newspaper in the county, the Genesee Intelligencer, was published by Elias Williams. Unfortunately publication was suspended in the following October. The early history of the press in Batavia is graphically told in a letter written by Benjamin Blodgett, one of the first editors, to Frederick Follett, in November, 1846. A part of this interesting letter follows:

The first paper published in this County was in the spring of 1807. Elias Williams purchased in Manlius, an old Ramage Printing Press that had been laid aside as useless, and a box of old type in pi, intended to sell as type metal, and brought them, in the winter of that year, to Batavia. After a laborious winter's work of assorting his old type, and patching up the old press, he published the first number of a paper called the "Genesee Intelligencer." This paper was printed upon a half sheet of medium size, with a subscription list of 100, and two or three columns of advertisements from the Holland Land Company, one Elopement, and one runaway apprentice Boy, for whose apprehension a bag of bran was offered as a reward. This was all the advertising patronage, if my recollection serves me right, that the paper commenced with. The paper was a sorry looking thing—the mechanical execution being so bad that it would have puzzled a Philadelphia Lawyer to find out what it was. I ought to have preserved a copy—it would be looked upon by the craft at this day, not only as a literary but a mechanical curiosity. Williams, becoming disheartened at the shabby appearance of his paper, and about to fail for the want of funds, induced me to go into partnership with him. Anxious to see my name at the head of a newspaper, as Printer, Publisher, and Editor, too, of the "Genesee Intelligencer," I embarked my all of this world's effects into the enterprise, which amounted to the vast sum of forty-eight dollars and seventy-five cents, the hard earnings of the summer before, as Pack Horseman and Cook to a Company of Surveyors on the Holland Purchase, a pursuit better fitted to my capacity at that day, than Editor of the "Genesee Intelligencer."

About the first of July, 1807, the firm of Williams & Blodgett resumed the publication of the "Intelligencer," with an increased subscription list and advertising patronage. After publishing 13 numbers, Williams went to Alexander to attend a Military Review, and has never since been seen or heard of in this country. This unceremonious leave-taking of Williams put a mighty damper upon the prospects of Mr. Editor Blodgett, who instead of realizing the golden dreams he had anticipated, found himself involved in debt about \$300, flat on his back with the fever and ague, which continued about six months without intermission; and for the want of help, not being a practical Printer myself, was obliged to abandon the publication of the "Intelligencer." However, in the spring of 1808, I rallied again, and in company with a man by the name of Peck, I started the "Cornucopia," (a very classic name,) with an enlarged sheet and new type, under the firm of Peck & Blodgett, with a subscription list of about 300. In the fall of 1811, Peck was taken sick and died, and with his death the "Cornucopia" went down.

I then, under the mechanical superintendence of David C. Millar, (afterwards Colonel, with his little cane and breeches,) commenced the publication of the "Republican Advocate," with a new Press and new type, and continued its publication for several years, when I sold out to Colonel Millar, who became sole proprietor of that paper.¹

Up to the year 1810 James Brisbane and Ebenezer Cary were the only merchants in town. In that year Ephraim Hart opened a mercantile establishment of extensive proportions, the management of which he intrusted to Clark Heacox.

¹ From the History of the Press in Western New York, by Frederick Pollock.

For the first half dozen years in the history of Batavia no regular religious organization was supported, though meetings were held occasionally by laymen and itinerant preachers. The first religious society was organized September 19, 1809, when "a regular meeting was held at the Center School House in this place, this afternoon, agreeable to previous notice being given, for the purpose of forming a Congregational Church. The Rev. Royal Phelps, a missionary from the Hampshire Missionary Society in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts presided, and officiated in the transactions of the day. We spent the meeting with a sermon adapted to the occasion, from Joshua 24th Chap. 15th Verse, 2d Clause."¹

At the conclusion of the sermon Silas Chapin, David Anderson, Ezekiel Fox, Solomon Kingsley, Eleanor Smith, Elizabeth Mathers, Elizabeth Peck, Esther Kellogg, Hulda Wright, Patience Kingsley, Esther Kingsley and Polly Branard, signed the Articles of Faith and Church Covenant and were pronounced the constituent members of the new Congregational church. September 24, 1809, Rev. Royal Phelps preached "at Jesse Rumsey's barn" and administered the ordinance of the Lord's Supper, this doubtless being the first occasion of that kind in the history of the town. The church was regularly incorporated in February, 1811. The first regular pastor of the congregation was Rev. Ephraim Chapin, who received a call January 23, 1818, and served four years.

The impending hostilities between Great Britain and America which were inaugurated in 1812 prompted the State government to adopt measures for the protection of the Canadian frontier from invasion. The plans for defense included the erection of an arsenal for the storage of arms and ammunition at Batavia. In 1810 or 1811 the State made a contract with Joseph Ellicott for the erection of a log building twenty feet square and twelve feet high to be used for this purpose. This "arsenal," not a very imposing edifice, but large enough and possibly strong enough for the purposes for which it was intended, was situated above the mill, on the opposite side and near the bend of the creek, on the Alexander road. It was abandoned soon after the close of the war of 1812, when the old stone arsenal in the west end of the village was erected by the State, under the supervision of Major Isaac Sutherland.

June 6, 1815, after a series of services according to the ritual of the Protestant Episcopal church had been conducted by Rev. Alanson W.

¹ From the church records.

Welton, a number of the resident adherents of that denomination met in the court house for the purpose of organizing a Protestant Episcopal church. Rev. Mr. Welton presided, and these officers were chosen: Wardens, John Hickcox, Samuel Benedict; vestrymen, Richard Smith, Isaac Sutherland, Isaac Spencer, John Z. Ross, Chauncey Keyes, David C. Miller, Aaron Van Cleve, Oswald Williams. It was decided that the society then organized should be known as St. James's church in Batavia. The record was certified by the chairman, S. Cummings, and Trumbull Cary, in the presence of Samuel Risley and Isaiah Babcock, acknowledged before Hon. D. McCracken, one of the judges of the Genesee county courts, and recorded in the county clerk's office by Samuel Lake, deputy county clerk. At the first meeting of the vestry, held at Hickcox's inn, July 1, 1815, Richard Smith was appointed clerk, and it was resolved that Isaac Sutherland, John Z. Ross and Chauncey Keyes "be a Committee to wait on the Agent of the Holland Land Company, to ascertain what aid may be obtained from the said Company towards the erection of a Protestant Episcopal Church, in the Village of Batavia, and that the said Committee report at the next meeting of the Vestry." July 15 the committee reported "that in behalf of the Holland Land Company, the Agent would make a donation towards the erection of a Protestant Episcopal Church, if of Wood, of One thousand Dollars, and if of Brick, of Fifteen hundred Dollars." At a subsequent meeting of the vestry at Hickcox's inn, which occupied the southern part of the court house, Aaron Van Cleve and Isaac Sutherland were appointed a committee to ascertain from the agent of the Holland Land Company what site might be obtained for the church. October 21 of that year Isaac Sutherland was designated to superintend the erection of a brick church. At the same time Richard Smith, the clerk of the vestry, was appointed treasurer and Chauncey Keyes and Isaac Spencer collectors. Major Sutherland declining to act as superintendent, another person was appointed in his place. The vestry immediately contracted with David Canfield and Thomas McCulley of Schenectady to perform the mason work, and on April 10, 1816, ground was broken and the erection of the new church was begun. The church was not completed until 1822. The first regular rector, Rev. Levi S. Ives, subsequently bishop of North Carolina, did not enter upon his duties until 1822, and his ministrations closed in summer of 1823.

Soon after the organization of St. James's church, a Methodist Epis-

copal class, which had been organized as early as 1816, perhaps prior to that time, began to take steps toward the organization of a regular church society. December 15, 1819, a meeting of the local Methodists was held at the court house. Rev. Elisha Howse presided, assisted by Jeremiah Bennett, and Thomas McCulley, Samuel F. Geer, Jeremiah Bennett, Seymour Ensign and Silas Hollister were elected trustees of a congregation which it was then and there decided should be known as the First Methodist Episcopal Church in Batavia. The first church edifice was not erected until 1823.

The Batavia branch of the Genesee County Bible Society was organized April 5, 1819. The meeting was held in the old brick school house, and Rev. Mr. Chapin acted as moderator and Thomas McCulley as secretary. The society was organized by the election of these officers: Chairman, Ephraim Towner; clerk, Thomas McCulley; treasurer, Parmenio Adams; collector, Uriel Spencer; distributing committee, Lemuel Foster, Amherst Crane, Ahimaz Brainard, Thomas McCulley.

A fair idea of the commercial and industrial progress made by the village during the period closing with the year 1819 may be gathered by reference to the following list of business men in town in that year:

Merchants, James Brisbane, Cary & Davis, Jonathan Lay, William H. Wells, J. P. & A. Smith, William R. Thompson, W. S. Moore & Co. Druggists, H. Tisdale, Hewitt & Billings. Leather and shoe store, Ephraim Towner. Jeweler, C. C. Church. Milliner, Miss Ann Forbes. Tailors, James Cawte, H. B. Pierpont, Samuel Mead. Harter, Nathan Follett. Tavernkeepers, William Keyes, Hinnian Holden, Horace Gibbs, Mrs. Leonard, Joseph Baker. Lawyers, Richard Smith, Daniel B. Brown, P. L. Tracy, Ethan B. Allen, T. C. Love, C. Carpenter. Physicians, D. McCracken, Ephraim Brown, John Cotes, Winter Hewitt, John Z. Ross. Saddler, Simeon Cummings. Cabinet and chairmaker, Thomas Bliss. Tanners, E. Towner, Oswald Williams. Meat market, Mr. Folsom. Book store, Oran Follett.

The year 1821 was marked by the first fire of any importance which occurred in Batavia. The number of buildings destroyed and the pecuniary losses appear small when compared with the great fires which are so common in these days, but the destruction of even \$10,000 worth of property was heavily felt by the citizens of Batavia over three-quarters of a century ago. The Spirit of the Times describes the fire, which occurred on the night of December 22, as follows:

The flames were discovered to proceed from a block of buildings occupied as stores and shops on the north side of Main street, and exhibited to the agitated minds of our citizens a scene terrible and alarming in the highest degree; the destructive ele-

ment was raging with the greatest fury in the heart of our village, and a prospect almost inevitable of the fairest portion of it being laid in ashes. The fire had made such progress before it was discovered, as to forbid all attempts to save the buildings situated on either side of Mr. L. Baker's Silversmith shop where it is supposed the fire originated. The active exertions of the citizens were turned to prevent it extending its ravages to the adjacent building. The struggle was long and doubtful, but the cool and deliberate action of a few individuals, favored by the stillness of the night, and the constant pouring of water over the sides of the exposed buildings, accomplished at last what the most sanguine hardly dare hope.

Mr. Gibb's dwelling house on the west, and the Grocery Store of Mr. Davis at the east, were situated but a few feet from the building burnt, yet they were saved with no other means than the use of buckets. The injury they sustained is trifling.

The destruction of property is of considerable amount. Three buildings destroyed. One of them was occupied by Messrs. Moore & Finch as a Dry-goods store and owned by Mr. Horace Gibbs. Another by L. Baker as a Silver-smith shop, also owned by Mr. Horace Gibbs. The other was occupied by Mr. James P. Smith, Merchant, Charles C. Church, watch-maker. The upper part was occupied by D. C. Miller, Esq., as the Advocate Printing Office, which was totally destroyed. The building was owned by Messrs. F. & T. Palmer. Mr. Miller is probably the greatest sufferer in this dreadful calamity, having lost the whole of his printing apparatus, list-books, accounts, etc.

The amount of property destroyed may be estimated at about \$10,000. The greatest amount was consumed in the building occupied by Messrs. Moore & Finch, but it gives us pleasure to state, that their loss, between 5 & \$6,000 was covered by an insurance.

The first direct result of the fire, aside from the temporary set-back to the business development of the village, was an agitation for the establishment of an adequate system of fire protection and the incorporation of the village. June 23, 1822, a mass meeting of citizens was held, when Silas Finch, William H. Wells and Trumbull Cary were appointed a committee to petition the State Legislature for an act of incorporation. For some reason the first attempt in this direction failed; but at the next succeeding session of the Legislature a charter was granted, on April 23, 1823. Following is the original act incorporating the village of Batavia.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of New York represented in Senate and Assembly: That the inhabitants resident within all that part of the Village of Batavia in the county of Genesee as Surveyed by Joseph Ellicott bounded as follows: Beginning at a point in the East line of lot Number forty-four in said Village eighty rods north from the centre of Genesee street thence westwardly parallel with the centre of Genesee and Batavia streets Eighty rods therefrom to the western bounds of Lot Number Three in said Village thence southerly on the west line of said lot number fourteen to the Southwest corner of said Lot, thence continuing in the same direction to the south bank of Tonnewanta Creek thence up the Southern bank of

Tonnawanta Creek to a point eighty rods south of the Centre of Genesee Street thence eastwardly parallel with said Genesee Street to the East line of Lot Number Forty-five thence northerly on said line to the place of beginning shall be a corporation by the name and Style of the Trustees of the Village of Batavia and by that name they and their Successors may have perpetual succession, shall be known in law; shall be capable of suing of being sued and of defending and being defended in all Courts and places whatsoever and in all manner of actions and causes and they and their Successors may have a common Seal and may alter the same at pleasure and shall be in Law capable of purchasing holding and conveying any real or personal Estate for the use of said corporation and shall have power to erect and keep in repair one or more fire Engine or Engines and Ladder fire hooks and other instruments for extinguishing fire; to improve the streets and sidewalks and remove and prevent encroachments thereon; to prevent horses cattle and swine from running in the streets, to erect hay scales and regulate the assize of bread and to raise money by Tax to carry into effect the above mentioned powers and for defraying the incidental expenses of supporting the several bye laws and regulations. Which money to be raised shall not exceed the sum of three hundred dollars annually Provided that no part of the said sum to be annually raised shall be applied to the making or repairing sidewalks, and shall be assessed upon the freeholders and inhabitants of said Village who are voters there in proportion to their property real and personal within said Corporation by the Trustees thereof and collected by the Collector of said Village in the same manner as the Taxes of the County of Genesee and collected by virtue of a warrant to him directed signed by a majority of the Trustees of said Corporation and by him paid into the hands of the Treasurer thereof: provided that no tax shall be levied or monies raised for any of the purposes aforesaid nor any public buildings erected nor any purchase or sale of any real or personal estate be made nor any fire Engine house or houses erected or disposed of without the consent of the freeholders and inhabitants of said Corporation assembled qualified to vote as hereinafter mentioned or a majority of them to be given at a public meeting duly notified as hereinafter mentioned.

And be it further Enacted That the Inhabitants residing within said Corporation and who shall have been in possession of real property within said Corporation for six months next Previous to the time of voting and shall have paid highway or other Taxes within the limits of said Village may on the first tuesday of June next meet at some proper place within the said Corporation to be appointed by any two Justices of the Peace of the town of Batavia a notice whereof shall be put up in at least three Public Places within said Corporation ten days previous to said first Tuesday of June next and then and there proceed to Elect five discreet persons resident within said Corporation and who shall have resided therein for the space of one year then next previous to such election and having freeholds therein to the value of Five hundred Dollars or other property to the value of One thousand Dollars to be the Trustees thereof and who when Chosen shall possess the Several rights and powers hereafter specified and Such Justices shall preside at such meeting and shall declare the Several Persons having the greatest number of votes duly Elected Trustees and on every first tuesday of May after the Election of Trustees there shall in like manner be a new election of Trustees for said Corporation and the Trustees so elected shall hold their offices for one year and until others are Elected in their stead and the said

Trustees or a majority of them shall after the first Election as aforesaid perform the duties required from the said Justices in respect to notifying the inhabitants of Said Village and presiding at Such Election.

And be it further Enacted That it shall be lawful for the said Trustees of said Village or a major part of them and their Successors to make ordain constitute and Publish such prudential bye Laws rules and regulations as they from time to time shall deem correct and proper and for the benefit of said Village relating to the objects mentioned in the first section of this act and not inconsistent with the Laws of the State or of the United States and shall further be lawful for the said Trustees to ordain constitute and publish such fines and forfeitures for the breaking any such laws.

And be it further Enacted That the inhabitants of said Village qualified to vote for Trustees as aforesaid at their first and annual meetings thereafter shall and they are hereby authorized and empowered to choose one Treasurer and one collector being inhabitants of said Village and having resided therein One year next previous to such election and the persons having the greatest number of Votes for each office respectively shall be deemed duly chosen and in case a vacancy shall happen in either of the above Offices by death removal from said Village or refusal to serve the trustees shall have the power to appoint some other person of the Qualification aforesaid to supply such vacancy until the annual meeting and the person so appointed shall be liable to the same penalties and restrictions as if duly elected at the annual meeting which said Treasurer and Collector shall be entitled to receive for their several services such suitable compensation as the legal voters of said Corporation or a majority of them at their annual meeting shall deem proper.

And be it further Enacted That the Trustees Treasurer and Collector shall before they proceed to execute their several offices and within ten days after their election respectively take and subscribe an oath or affirmation before any Justice of the peace of the town of Batavia for the faithful Execution of the Office or trust to which they may be severally elected Provided nevertheless That the said Treasurer and Collector before they take the oath or affirmation aforesaid shall respectively give security to the Trustees of said Village for the faithful discharge of their respective Offices in such sum and in such manner as the majority of them shall deem sufficient.

And be it further Enacted That it shall be lawful for the Trustees of said Village or a majority of them to appoint not exceeding fifty firemen out of the inhabitants of said Village and the same or any of them to remove at pleasure and to appoint others in their stead and to regulate the times of meeting and exercise of said Company of firemen to appoint their Captain and other officers and to make such bye laws rules and regulations for the government of said Company and regulate ordain and establish such penalties for the breaking or disobeying of such bye Laws rules and regulations as they may deem expedient Provided that no penalty shall be inflicted on any fireman exceeding the sum of fifteen Dollars for any one offence and that the said Trustees or a majority of them shall have the power of remitting such fine or any penalty when they may deem it expedient.

And be it further Enacted That the Trustees within twenty days after their election or a major part of them shall and it is hereby made their duty to assemble at some convenient place in said Village and there choose and appoint some one suitable person of their body to be President of the said board of Trustees and some other suit-

able person being a taxable inhabitant of said Village to be Clerk to said board of Trustees and it shall be the duty of the President when present to preside at the meetings of the Trustees, to order extraordinary meetings of the Trustees whenever he may conceive it for the interest of the Village; to hear and receive complaints of the breach of any of the laws of said Corporation to see that all the bye laws rules and regulations of said Village are enforced and faithfully executed to prosecute in the name of the Trustees all offenders against or violators of the bye laws ordained and published as aforesaid to keep the seal of said village and to affix it together with his signature to all such rules and regulations as a majority of the Trustees shall deem proper and in case of the Death removal or inability of the President to discharge the duties of the Office it shall be the duty of the Clerk to notify the other Trustees of such death removal or inability who shall within ten days thereafter meet and elect another President out of their body to hold his office until the next annual meeting and it shall further be the duty of the President to take care of protect and preserve all the property belonging to said Village as a Corporation to preside over all public meetings of the villagers for the purposes and to do all such other acts and things as may be proper for the President of the Trustees to do and it shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep the minutes of all such votes orders rules and regulations as are made by the freeholders and inhabitants of such Village at their public meetings, and also to attend the meetings of the trustees and record all the bye laws rules and regulations passed by them; and the Trustees shall have power to remove such clerk and to appoint a new one, and to appoint one pro tempore in case of the absence of the Clerk as a majority of them shall agree, and the Clerk shall receive such compensation for his services as a majority of the trustees shall deem sufficient to be paid out of the funds of said Village.

And be it further Enacted That it shall be the duty of the Trustees and their Successors annually to assess on the several inhabitants and freeholders residing in said village the amount of the taxes which the freeholders and inhabitants of said Village shall at the annual meetings determine to be raised levied or collected in proportion to their property real and personal within said village and they shall likewise exercise the office of fire wardens in said village in case of fire.

And be it further Enacted That the Collector shall within such time as shall be hereafter limited by the bye laws of said Corporation after the receipt of his warrant for collecting of any Tax that may have been ordered to be raised collect and pay the same to the Treasurer and that such collector shall have and exercise the same power in the Collecting such Taxes by distress and sale as the several collectors of Towns have in the levying and collecting of Taxes and that all monies which may at any time be in the hands of the Treasurer shall be liable to be drawn out by the Trustees or a majority of them and applied and disposed of as shall have been directed by the freeholders and Inhabitants of said Village or agreeably to the provisions of this act; Provided nevertheless that the Trustees shall have the Power to apply and dispose of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated for any purpose or purposes for the benefit of said Corporation in their discretion anything in this act to the contrary notwithstanding.

And be it further Enacted That the said Trustees shall keep an account of their necessary disbursements and shall exhibit the same to the Taxable inhabitants of said Village at their annual meeting or any other legal meeting of said Corporation when required by a vote thereof.

And be it further Enacted That if any one of the inhabitants of said Village qualified as aforesaid shall hereafter be elected and chosen a trustee and shall refuse or neglect to serve as such it may be lawful for the Trustees duly qualified or the major part of them to impose and inflict upon such person so neglecting or refusing such reasonable fine or fines as they may think proper Provided That such fine for any one offence shall not exceed the sum of Ten dollars to be recovered in the same manner that other fines or penalties are recoverable by this act and that in all cases when the Trustees of the Village of Batavia shall sue or prosecute by virtue of this act it shall be sufficient for the said Trustees to declare generally that the Defendant is indebted to them by virtue of this act to the amount of twenty five dollars or under and give any special matter in evidence under such declaration and in any action or actions which may be brought for or against the Trustees or for or against any other person or persons for anything done under this act the freeholders or Inhabitants of said Village shall be and they are hereby declared Competent Witnesses or Jurymen for either party in such action.

And be it further Enacted That it shall be the duty of the President of the Board of Trustees to give notice to the Inhabitants of said Village of all public meetings at least one week previous thereto in such manner as a majority of the Trustees may deem proper and that it shall be lawful for the Trustees or a majority of them to call a public meeting of the inhabitants of said Village when they may think it expedient.

And be it further Enacted That all fines penalties and forfeitures and all monies obtained in any manner whatever by virtue of this act shall be paid into the hands of the Treasurer for the public use of said Village and the Treasurer shall and he is hereby authorized in case any person having so received any money by virtue of this act to and for the use and proper benefit of said Village and shall refuse or neglect to pay the same to him to prosecute every such Offender in the name of the Trustees of said Village for monies had and received to and for the use of said Village.

And be it further Enacted That each and every individual owning or being in possession of land in the said Village adjacent to the Street of said Village shall make and improve side walks in front of such land under the direction and superintendence of the Trustees Provided nevertheless that no individual shall be compelled to expend a greater sum than Ten Dollars in any One year for such purpose and in case any person shall neglect or refuse to build or repair such side walk in front of his or their land after being duly notified by the Trustees the said Trustees may erect or repair the same and charge such person or persons therewith and recover the same in the same manner that other penalties are recoverable by virtue of this act.

And be it further Enacted That this act be and the same is hereby declared to be a public act and shall be construed in all Courts of Justice within this State benignly and liberally to effect every beneficial purpose therein mentioned and contained.

A supplementary act passed April 9, 1834, contained the following provisions:

Be it enacted by the people of the State of New York represented in Senate and Assembly That in addition to the powers vested in the Trustees of the Village of Batavia in and by the act of which this is a supplement that the said Trustees have full power and authority to determine the number of groceries to be kept in the

said Village and to license such and so many thereof for such sum or sums of money as they the said Trustees or a majority of them shall determine to be just and proper which said money shall be paid into the hands of the Treasurer of the said Corporation for the use of the said Corporation the said Trustees shall also have full power and authority to compel each and every house keeper or person being in possession of any building in said village to keep their fire places chimneys and stoves clean and in good repair also to order and direct each and every person who shall be in possession of any building in said Village to provide themselves with one or more fire buckets the said Trustees shall also have full power and authority to suppress and prevent nuisances generally and may make and ordain such prudential by-laws rules and regulations in reference to the above objects as to them or a majority of them shall seem meet and proper.

And be it further Enacted That the person or persons in possession of any real estate in said Village at the time any tax is assessed shall be liable to pay the amount assessed thereon and if such person or persons is or are not bound by contract or otherwise to pay such tax or any part thereof he she or they shall and may recover the same from the owner or owners of such real estate or other person whose duty it was to have paid the same.

And be it further Enacted That it shall be lawful for the freeholders and inhabitants resident in the Village of Batavia qualified to vote at their annual meeting in each and every year to choose and elect by ballot a Village Constable who when elected shall be vested with the same powers and authority and subject to the same duties in all cases civil and criminal as by law appertain or belong to constables chosen at the annual Town meetings of the Town of Batavia Provided however that the said Constable shall not have power or authority to execute any civil process except the Corporation of said Village shall be a party thereto or interested therein and provided further that the said Constable shall within ten days after his election and before he enters upon the Duties of his office shall take and subscribe an oath or affirmation before any justice of the peace faithfully to execute the Duties of his office and shall also give security to the Trustees for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office in such sum and in such manner as Majority of the said Trustees shall deem proper and sufficient.

And be it further Enacted That it shall be and is hereby made the duty of the Trustees of the Village of Batavia at each and every annual meeting of the inhabitants of said Village to exhibit a just and true account of the expenditure of all monies which shall have been assessed or otherwise received for the use of the Corporation of said Village.

In accordance with the provisions of this charter a meeting of the inhabitants of the village was held June 3, 1823, at the tavern of James Ganson. C. Carpenter and D. Tisdale, justices of the peace, presided, and the following were chosen officers for the first year:

Trustees, Daniel H. Chandler, David E. Evans, Nathan Follett, Simeon Cummings, Silas Finch; treasurer, Trumbull Cary; collector, Parley Paine.

These officers met June 14 and made these appointments:

President, Daniel H. Chandler; clerk, Oliver G. Adams; assessors, Silas Finch, Nathan Follett; superintendent of streets and sidewalks, Simeon Cummings; pound-keeper, Robert P. Betts.

While the original charter of the village of Batavia and its supplement are quaint documents, they are hardly more interesting than the first ordinances adopted June 5, 1823, by the trustees, signed by Daniel H. Chandler as president, and printed and posted in conspicuous places throughout the village. These ordinances related exclusively to the subject of impounding stray animals, fast riding or driving, and defining sidewalks. After describing the duties of poundmaster and the limitations of owners of animals, the first ordinance provides that "such Pound keeper shall receive for his services the following fees, to wit: for driving each swine to pound, six cents, and six cents for each day he shall keep the same; and for driving each horse to pound, twelve and an half cents, and twelve and an half cents for each day he shall keep the same; and six cents for advertising, and six cents for selling each swine or horse impounded as aforesaid." Sidewalks were defined as "the space of twelve feet, on each side of the streets." It was also ordained that "there shall be no running or racing of horses in the several streets within the boundaries of the Corporation of the Village of Batavia. . . . Each and every person running a horse upon any of the streets within the said Corporation, shall forfeit and pay to the trustees of the said corporation, the sum of one dollar, with costs of suit; and each and every person running a single horse, with a carriage, sled or sleigh, on any of the streets aforesaid, shall forfeit and pay as aforesaid, the sum of Two Dollars; and each and every person running a pair or span of horses, with a carriage, sled or sleigh, on any of the streets aforesaid, shall forfeit and pay as aforesaid, the sum of Five Dollars; and each and every person, who shall a second time be guilty of a violation of this ordinance, shall forfeit and pay as aforesaid, double the amount for each and every offence above enumerated, with costs of suit as aforesaid."

From this time on the village began to realize the benefits of incorporation. Streets were improved, sidewalks constructed, street lights were provided for and measures were taken to guard against the ravages of fire. The first fire company was not organized, however, until April 20, 1824. The "Rules and Regulations enacted by the trustees of the Village of Batavia in relation to the Fire men and Fire Company in said Village April 20th, 1824," read as follows:

There shall be one fire company established in the village of Batavia to consist of twenty-five men, and shall be denominated Batavia Fire Company, and located at such place as the Trustees may hereafter designate.

The following persons are hereby appointed fire men in said company:

William Seaver, Jun., Captain; Nathan Follett, Hinman Holden, Norman Town, William R. Thompson, Benjamin Allen, Stephen Grant, Naham Loring, John S. Moon, Jonathan Lay, Horace Gibbs, David M. Gardner, Rufus Burnham, Walter Seymour, Daniel H. Chandler, Frederick Follett, William Purcell, Parley Paine Oran Follet, William Platt, Daniel Gates, Ralph Stiles, Hezekiah Platt, William Dickinson, Charles C. Church.

The members of said Company shall hereafter elect their captain by a plurality of the votes of the members present, and such person so elected shall be respected in his office, and shall discharge the duties of the same and shall hold his office for one year, and until another shall be elected. . . .

It shall be the duty of the members of said company, in the event of fire, to repair with all possible dispatch to the place of rendezvous, and conduct themselves in an orderly and efficient manner in discharging their duties in extinguishing fire, under the penalty of Five Dollars for each offense, to be prosecuted for and recovered and applied according to law.

In case of fire . . . it shall be the duty of every person present to obey the directions of the Trustees of the Village, in the formation of Bucket Lines, and to render such other assistance as may be required, and any person present who shall refuse to comply with such orders, shall for each offense, pay to the Trustees for the use of the Inhabitants of said Village, a fine of five dollars.

This was the first fire company organized in Batavia, and the foundation of the modern fire department of the village.

May 4, 1824, the board of trustees of Batavia, consisting of Daniel H. Chandler, David E. Evans, Silas Fink and Nathan Follett, reported that they had expended the sum of \$295.51 for street improvements; also that "the trustees have very recently expended \$17. in constructing a sluice way across the street near Mr. Burnhams in order to drain a pond, which threatens, unless speedily removed, to create considerable sickness."

A tragic event, the notorious "Morgan affair," which had its inception in Batavia, transpired in the year 1826. The details of this lamentable occurrence are given in an earlier chapter on the history of the county.

The brewing industry in Batavia had its inception in a brewery and malt house established in 1827 by Libbeus Fish. The business grew steadily until by 1860 the annual output amounted to eight thousand barrels. Libbeus Fish was sole proprietor until 1835, when his son, Eli H. Fish, became proprietor. In 1862 the latter sold the business to Boyle & Smith, who in turn sold it in 1864 to Mr. Fish. The build-

ings were burned in 1865. The same year Mr. Fish erected a malt house on the site, conducting it until 1871, when he formed a partnership with Robert A. Maxwell. Early in 1872 Maxwell & Ensign succeeded to the business. The plant was destroyed by fire in December, 1872, but within a few months had been rebuilt by Mr. Fish, who then formed a partnership with A. H. King. In 1876 the interest of Mr. Fish was purchased by A. H. King & Son. Fire again destroyed the plant in May, 1883; but King & Son at once rebuilt it, increasing its capacity twofold. In 1886 Mr. King became sole owner, and in 1888 the property passed into the hands of Upton & Warner.

In 1850 John Eager bought the old stone Methodist Episcopal church on West Main street, which he converted into a brewery. This he conducted until 1862, when it was destroyed by fire. He then erected a commodious brick building on the opposite side of the street, in which he continued the business. Mr. Eager died December 23, 1869. His widow conducted the business for a short time, since which it has been in the hands of his sons and daughter, Wellington T. Eager, Herbert B. Eager, and Mrs. E. M. Whitcomb.

In 1857 Eli H. Fish constructed capacious ale vaults on the site of the original Fish brewery. This plant changed hands several times until, in 1880, it came into possession of William Gamble, who operated it until 1887, in which year the buildings were burned. Soon after the Batavia Brewing Company was formed, with William Gamble as superintendent, and this company erected a new building in the eastern part of the village in the fall of 1889.

The Bank of Genesee of Batavia was incorporated in 1829 with the following directors: Alva Smith, James C. Ferris, Oliver Benton, Henry Hawkins, Gaius B. Rich, Jacob Le Roy, Trumbull Cary, Rufus H. King, Jonathan Lay, Roswell L. Burrows, Israel Rathbone, Phineas L. Tracy, Joseph Fellows.

Its capital stock originally was one hundred thousand dollars, but this was increased the first year to one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The first president was Trumbull Cary and the first cashier William M. Vermilye. In 1851 the institution was reorganized as a State bank. In March, 1865, it became a national bank, under the name of National Bank of Genesee, having a capital stock of one hundred and fourteen thousand four hundred dollars. In 1885 the charter was renewed and it continued business as a national bank until June, 1888, on which date the charter was surrendered and the bank was reorgan-

ized as a State bank having a capital of seventy-five thousand dollars. Among those who at various times have served as directors of the Bank of Genesee are Jacob Le Loy, Oliver Benton, Trumbull Cary, Alva Smith, James C. Ferris, Gaius B. Rich, Rufus H. King, Henry Hawkins, Phineas L. Tracy, Israel Rathbone, Joseph Fellows, Jonathan Lay, R. S. Burrows, John Foot, G. W. Lay, David E. Evans, James Wadsworth, Horatio Stevens, John S. Ganson, Samuel Skinner, C. M. Lee, John B. Skinner, Benedict Brooks, Horatio Averill, Thomas Otis, William M. Sprague, J. E. Robinson, Benjamin Pringle, S. Grant, Aaron D. Patchen, Walter Cary, J. S. Wadsworth, T. H. Newbold, Miles P. Lampson, Thomas Brown, William Lampson, H. U. Howard, E. H. Fish, R. T. Howard, Augustus N. Cowdin, Trumbull Cary, Dr. Charles Cary, J. N. Scatcherd, and H. F. Tarbox. The following have served as officers of the bank:

Presidents.—Trumbull Cary, from the organization to March 31, 1840; Phineas L. Tracy, 1840-1851; Benjamin Pringle, 1851-1855; H. U. Howard, 1855-1885; Augustus N. Cowdin, 1885-1898; Trumbull Cary, 1898 to present time.

Vice-Presidents.—Phineas L. Tracy, 1834-1840; J. C. Ferris, 1840-1844; J. B. Skinner, 1844-49; Benjamin Pringle, 1849-1851; Alva Smith, 1851-1853; H. U. Howard, 1853-1855; Alva Smith, 1855-1857; J. B. Skinner, 1857-1870; E. H. Fish, 1870-1879; Walter Cary, 1879-1882; W. Lampson, 1882-1885; H. F. Tarbox, 1891-1894; J. N. Scatcherd, 1894-1898.

Cashiers.—William M. Vermilye, from organization to May, 1830; J. S. Ganson, 1830-1838; J. E. Robinson, 1838-1851; T. C. Kimberly, 1851-1858; M. L. Babcock, 1858-1859; Augustus N. Cowdin, 1859-1885; Trumbull Cary, 1885-1898; Lewis F. McLean.

For many years the Bank of Genesee was the only financial institution in this section of the State, and its business extended over nearly all of Western New York.

The first official record of any fire engine in the village of Batavia is found in the annual report of the board of trustees for 1830:

An attempt had made some years ago, to organise a fire Company; but it had failed, probably, because the Corporation had no Engine; an essential object, to concentrate and direct the attention and discipline of such a company.

In September last, a small Engine, upon an improved and cheap plan, was bro't to this village, exhibited for several days to the inhabitants, and offered for sale on a year's credit, at \$270, with interest.

A Memorial was presented to the trustees, signed by forty-seven persons, contain-

ing the names of the most respectable inhabitants, and heaviest taxpayers in the Corporation, praying the trustees to purchase said Engine, and pledging themselves to vote for a tax to meet the payment for the same.

In compliance with so respectable, and so reasonable and proper request, the trustees purchased said Engine, and gave a Note for the same, under the seal of the Corporation, on interest.

The faith and credit of the Village are therefore pledged for the payment of it, and it is hoped and presumed they will be honorably redeemed.

Immediately upon the purchase of the Engine, a Fire Company was organized, under the command of William Seaver Esq., Captain.

This organization was known as Triton Fire Company. Its officers and members were as follows:

Captain, William Seaver; first engineer, Daniel H. Chandler; second engineer, Nathan Follett; secretary, Abraham Van Tuyl; treasurer, John S. Ganson; members, Henry Tisdale, Daniel Latimer, Ralph Stiles, B. Humphrey, James B. Lay, John Wilson, Alva Smith, Joseph Clarke, Albert Hosmer, James Milnor, Homer Kimberly, Stephen Grant, V. M. Cummings, Frederick Follett, George A. Lay, Norman Town, D. C. McCleary, John Chatfield, I. N. Town, Junius A. Smith.

In the annual report for 1851 the trustees said:

It will be recollected that in the year 1829 an Engine was purchased for the use of this Village. That the Engine was purchased in good faith, by the then acting Trustees, there can be no doubt,—indeed they did not venture upon its purchase, without first obtaining the consent of the citizens of the village to do so. The Engine was purchased, and a Corporation Note, for \$270 given for the payment thereof, payable in one year from date. The Note became due, we believe in September last. At the last annual meeting of the Electors of the Village, a vote was taken to raise \$300 by tax, in order to meet the payment of said Note. Before the Note became due, the Trustees were satisfied, that the Engine did not answer the recommendation given of it at the time it was purchased. It therefore became a subject of some moment, whether it should be paid for, or not. In order to determine this question, it was thought best to refer the subject back to the inhabitants of the Village for their decision. A meeting for this purpose was called—and it was the unanimous opinion of those present, that a compromise should be made, if possible, with the owners of the Note, by paying them for all damages which the Engine might have sustained, during the time it has been in our possession, and that they take the same back—and in case they would not do this, the Trustees were advised to stand trial, on the suit, if one should be commenced. The President of the Village, accordingly wrote to the Agent of the Company, who resided in New York. The only answer which has ever been received to this letter, was one from a Lawyer in that city, informing that the Note had been left with him for collection, and that unless immediately paid, the same would be prosecuted. Some four or five months have since elapsed, but no prosecution has been commenced. That the Engine is, comparatively, good for nothing, there can be no doubt. It may perhaps, be well for the Electors now as-

sembled, to take some order on this subject. We leave this, however, entirely to your good judgment.

Two destructive fires occurred in Batavia in 1833. The first of these occurred about two o'clock on the morning of March 4, and was first discovered in a wooden building on Main street, near the corner of Jackson street, in which was located a billiard parlor. This building was destroyed, together with one on the west side occupied by William Manley as a saddler's shop, and two small buildings on the east side, occupied respectively by G. C. Towner as a law office and by ——— Wentworth as a shoe shop. Most of the contents of these buildings were saved.

A more disastrous fire occurred April 19, 1833, the flames first being discovered between one and two o'clock in the morning in a small wooden building nearly opposite the Eagle Tavern. It spread with great rapidity along Main street "until its progress eastward was arrested, though with difficulty, at the intersection of Mechanic street, and westward by the new three-story Arcade Buildings erected by A. Champion of Rochester. The following buildings were destroyed: The Tavern House at the corner of Genesee and Mechanic streets, together with its appurtenances, occupied by Harvey Rowe, and owned by Messrs. Lamberton and Hurlburt. Mr. Rowe's goods and furniture were principally saved. Loss of buildings, about \$1,200. An uncompleted building, owned by Joseph Wilson, which was fitting up for a grocery, valued at about \$300. A small building occupied by R. Blades as a Tailors' shop. Loss of building about \$150. Some of Mr. Blade's goods and furniture were destroyed. A building owned and occupied by Joseph Wilson as a grocery, together with most of the goods. Loss about \$500. The Store of Messrs. Sherman and Crandall, occupied by them as a Dry Goods and Book Store, and Book Bindery, most of the goods were saved. Whole loss about \$2,000. A building owned by William Dickinson, and occupied by J. T. Allen, Watch-maker and Jeweller, and Messrs. Gilbert & Seward, Tin and Sheet Iron manufacturers. Mr. Dickinson's loss \$400; Mr. Allen about \$100. A small building owned by Mrs. Ross, occupied by Hugh Evans as a grocery and Bakers shop, valued at about \$100. A two-story building, owned also by Mrs. Ross, and occupied by W. P. Goldsmith as a Tailors shop; Charles Seward as a dwelling; E. C. Dibble, Attorney at Law, and Doct. L. B. Cotes, as a Druggist Store. In the basement was a grocery, kept by Caleb Allen. Building estimated at

\$800, insured \$300. A share of the loss is sustained by G. W. Allen, to whom the building was leased for a term of years, and who had fitted it up and rented it to the present occupants. Although the number of buildings was considerable, yet as will be perceived, some of them were not of very great value. The aggregate loss of buildings is estimated at about \$4,000. There has, however, been some considerable other loss, but to what amount we are unable to state."

The report of the village trustees, submitted May 7, 1833, shows that the village paid John Anderson the sum of five hundred dollars for a "fire engine and apparatus;" and that the further sum of \$49.89 was paid to William Dickinson for "hooks and ladders, axes, etc." The year following one hundred dollars more was paid to John Anderson "for engine;" \$18.50 to D. Latimer "for storing engine;" and \$40 to William Dickinson "for carriage for hooks and ladders."

A still more disastrous fire than that of 1833, which might properly be dignified by the name of conflagration, occurred in Batavia May 30, 1834. The buildings destroyed burned with great fury. There had been no rain for some time and everything was quite dry. Added to this, a strong wind was blowing from the southwest. The local fire company responded quickly to the alarm, bringing the little fire engine called the "Triton." William Seaver, the historical writer, who was foreman of the fire company at that time, in referring to this apparatus says that it "could only be worked by six men at a time, three on each crank, like turning a grind-stone, and its effect on that fire was about equal to a pewter syringe on the crater of Mount *Etna*." As soon as the roofs of the two big hotels caught fire, the gale drove the blazing shingles to great distances, at one time threatening to destroy the whole village. Fortunately, about half an hour after the fire started the wind suddenly veered to the northeast. The most authentic account of this conflagration appeared in the *Advocate* of June 3, 1834:

The most destructive fire ever known in this county, broke out in this village on Friday last, about 5 o'clock P. M. It was first discovered in some combustible materials near the barns and stables connected with the Eagle Tavern. The out-houses were quickly one mass of flame, and being situated near the Eagle Tavern, it was found to be impossible to prevent the destruction of that noble edifice, and soon the devouring element was seen bursting in large volumes from its windows. A gentle gale was blowing from the southwest nearly in the direction of Genesee street, which caused the flames to expand along the line of buildings on the south side of that street with alarming rapidity, and to progress in that direction in spite of every effort

¹ From the *Batavia Advocate* of March 5, 1833.

to avert them, till every building was a blazing heap of ruins from the Eagle Tavern to Mr. Latimer's house near the corner of Jackson street, where by indefatigable and persevering efforts of the Fire Company, the march of the destroyer was at length stayed.

The fire extended south from the Eagle Tavern along Court street to Mr. Wood's blacksmith shop on Bigtree street. The spectacle presented by the conflagration was truly appalling. The following estimate of the number of buildings destroyed, the amount of Insurance, loss &c. on each, will be found nearly correct.

Genesee street.—B. Humphrey's Eagle Tavern, estimated loss of buildings, barns, sheds &c. \$10,000. Insured \$7,000.

Tavern house occupied by H. Rowe, and owned by A. Champion of Rochester, no insurance. Loss \$3,000.

Taggart & Smith's Law Office, no insurance. Loss \$300.

Jones & Leech, tailors shop, owned by M. Taggart Esq., no insurance. Loss \$200.

Law Office and dwelling house, owned by T. Fitch Esq., no insurance. Loss \$1,200.

Building owned by E. B. Seymour, and occupied by Mr. Buxton as a Cabinet shop, by Gilbert & Seward as a Tin Factory, and by T. Cole as a tailor's shop. Insured \$300. Loss of building \$600.

Dwelling House owned by Mrs. Hewett, no insurance. Loss \$800.

Dwelling house owned and occupied by Richard Smith Esq., no insurance. Loss \$400.

Allen & Chandler's Law Office.

Dwelling house owned by E. B. Allen, and occupied by Mr. Ottoway, and Wm. Fursman. Loss \$1000.

Two small buildings, one occupied as a grocery and the other as a dwelling.

Court Street. Two dwellings owned by H. & E. C. Kimberly. Loss \$600.

Barns and sheds owned by A. Hosmer. Loss \$500.

Big-Tree Street.—Two dwelling houses owned by Jesse Wood. Loss \$900. Insured \$500.

Considerable furniture and other property were also destroyed, of which it is impossible to form an estimate.

The whole number of buildings, including dwellings, barns, &c. is about 25. Aggregate loss of property, it is supposed cannot be less than \$30,000.

By this fire a large number of persons were rendered homeless, and the central and most conspicuous and valuable portion of the village was annihilated.

For many years the "Snake Den tavern," located on the corner of Main and State streets, was a largely patronized hostelry. This hotel was built in 1834 by Truman Hurlburt, sr., and named the Genesee house. It was also popularly known as the Snake Den tavern.

The fourth church established in Batavia, the Baptist church, was organized November 19, 1835, at a meeting held in the court house. Gideon Kendrick and P. S. Moffit presided over the meeting. It was voted that the society be called the "Baptist Society of Batavia Vil-

lage," and Richard Covell, jr., John Dorman, William Blossom, William D. Popple and Calvin Foster were elected the first trustees. Rev. J. Clark was at once engaged as the first pastor, and a house of worship was erected on Jackson street in the same year by T. J. Hoyt and Thomas McCulley, on land donated to the society by William D. Popple.

Even before the territory devastated by the great fire of 1834 had been again improved by the reconstruction of the edifices destroyed, another fire, though not of such serious proportions, occurred. It originated early on the evening of November 8, 1837, in a building on the north side of Genesee street owned by William Blossom and occupied as a dwelling by John Kenyon, which, with the building occupied by the Misses Vaughns as a millinery establishment and Mr. Staniford as a tailor's shop, were consumed. The flames then continued in an easterly direction, destroyed the barber shop, G. W. Allen's jewelry store, H. Noble's tailor shop and John Kenyon's grocery store. The progress of the fire was stopped by tearing down a frame building occupied by D. N. Tuttle as a hat factory and Isaac M. Joslyn as a gunsmith shop.

One of the most exciting events in early times in Batavia was the attempt of a mob to assault and destroy the office of the Land Company during the so-called "Land Office war" in 1836. Fortunately the inhabitants of the village were apprised of the impending trouble in ample time to arm themselves, and when the mob reached the village they found that such a determined and organized resistance had been prepared that all efforts on their part looking to the destruction of the land office or any other property would be accompanied by the death of greater or less numbers of the invading party. Consequently they retired and the threatened attack was never made.¹

The Exchange Bank of Genesee was organized at Alexander in 1838, by Samuel Benedict, jr., Earl Kidder, Henry Martin, Van Rensselaer Hawkins, Henry Hawkins, Jesse Hawkins, Stephen King, Josiah Newton, Charles Kendall and others, with a capital stock of one hundred thousand dollars. Among those who served as cashiers at various times during the career of this institution were Heman Blodgett, E. S. Warner, H. T. Cross and J. E. Pierpont. The bank was authorized by the Legislature on March 11, 1848, to change its place of business from Alexander to Rochester, but with the proviso that it continue an office at Alexander for the purpose of closing up its business there, for a period not exceeding one year. But the institution never took the

¹ A more detailed account of this disturbance will be found in a preceding chapter.

step authorized by the Legislature. Soon after his removal to Alexander D. W. Tomlinson bought up all the stock and removed the bank to Batavia, where it finally discontinued business about 1858.

The Batavia Lyceum was incorporated April 17, 1843, "for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a library, reading room, and rooms for debates and lectures on literary and scientific subjects; and such other means of promoting moral and intellectual improvement, with power for such purposes to take by purchase, devise, gift or otherwise, and to hold, transfer and convey real estate and personal property, to the amount of ten thousand dollars; and also further to take, retain and convey all such books, cabinets, library furniture and apparatus as may be necessary to obtain the objects and effect the purposes of said corporation." The incorporators named in the charter were Heman J. Redfield, Trumbull Cary, Lucius A. Smith, Isaac A. Verplanck, Joshua L. Brown, William G. Bryan, John F. Ernst, Joel Allen, Brannon Young, Seth Wakeman, Frederick Follett, John L. Dorrance and their associates.

By the amendment to the village charter passed April 22, 1844, the bounds of the village of Batavia were fixed as follows:

Beginning at a point in the east line of lot number forty-four in said village, one hundred rods north from the centre of Genesee street; thence westerly parallel with the centre of Genesee and Batavia streets one hundred rods therefrom to the westerly bounds of lot number nine in said village; thence southerly on the west line of said lot number nine, to the southwest corner of said lot; thence continuing in the same direction to the north bank of Tonewanta creek, thence up the northern bank of said creek to a point one hundred rods south of the centre of Genesee street; thence eastwardly parallel with the centre of Genesee street to the east line of lot number forty-five; thence northerly on said line to the place of beginning.

In 1847 the trustees reported that, pursuant to the vote at the preceding annual town meeting, they had "proceeded to the selection of a site and commenced the building of a suitable Engine and Hook and Ladder House, and to complete the same they were compelled to borrow Two Hundred Dollars." The trustees further reported that the engine owned by the village was not satisfactory, and continued:

Inasmuch as the corporation now own a good and sufficient Engine House, the Trustees flatter themselves that the citizens will carry out the work of encouraging the Fire Department by purchasing a good and substantial Engine, and one that will give satisfaction to the Firemen as well as the citizens.

In accordance with the recommendation of the board and the resolution then adopted by the voters, the trustees purchased of Thomas Snooks a fire engine, paying therefor seven hundred dollars.

In 1851 the trustees reported that they had "caused to be built, pursuant to the vote of the electors of said village, two large reservoirs, and have caused a well to be dug and furnished with a pump and enclosed with good and substantial railing, so that each reservoir can be filled and kept supplied with water for the use of the Fire Department. They have also exchanged the old fire engine Red Jacket for a new Engine, for which they have given their official note for \$200."

In 1852 they report: "The Engine which was procured by the exchange of the old Engine Red Jacket was found upon trial not to be of sufficient power, and the trustees have sold that for the sum of \$200, and have purchased a new engine for the sum of \$756. . . . They have also sold the old Engine house (located on Jackson street) and have procured in place thereof a permanent Lease of the basement of the Old Court house for the use of the Fire department. They have also purchased a new Hose Cart for the use of Engine No. 2; also 200 feet of new Hose."

By the amended charter adopted in April, 1853, the bounds of the corporation were fixed as follows:

The territory embraced within the following bounds, that is to say: Beginning in the east line of lot number forty-six (as laid down on the map or survey of the village of Batavia into village lots made by the Holland Land Company by Joseph Ellicott, surveyor) at a point half a mile northwardly from Genesee street; thence westwardly parallel to said Genesee street and half a mile distant therefrom to a point two chains and fifty links westwardly of the east line of lot number sixteen; thence still westwardly parallel to Batavia street and half a mile distant therefrom to the west line of lot number eight; thence southwardly on the west line of lot number eight to Batavia street, thence continuing southerly in the same direction to the south bank of the Tonawanda creek; thence up said creek on the south bank thereof to the west line of lot number fifty seven; thence southerly upon the said west line of lot number fifty seven to the plank road of the Buffalo and Batavia Plank Road Company; thence easterly along said plank road to the west line of lot number fifty five; thence southerly on the west line of said lot number fifty five to the south line of the second or straight line of railway of the Buffalo and Rochester Rail Road Company; thence easterly on the southerly line of said railway to the western bank of the Tonawanda Creek; thence up said creek on the westerly and southerly bank thereof to a point twenty rods due south from the street or highway now known as Chestnut street; thence eastwardly to the northerly bank of the Tonawanda creek, at the point where the east line of lot number twenty nine intersects the same; thence eastwardly in a direct line to the point where the east line of lot number forty seven intersects

Bigtree street; and thence northwardly on the east line of lots number forty seven and forty six to the place of beginning, shall constitute the village of Batavia, and the bounds thereof are altered and extended accordingly.

It is interesting to note at this juncture the names of the persons engaged in the various branches of trade, in the professions, etc., half a century ago, as illustrating the commercial development of the village of Batavia during that period of its career. The following is the list as it was published in 1849.¹

Ministers.—J. A. Bolles, Byron Sunderland, S. M. Stimpson, Allen Steele, D. C. Houghton.

Doctors.—John Cotes, Levant B. Cotes, H. Ganson, C. E. Ford, John F. Baker, Chauncey D. Griswold, J. Delamater.

Lawyers.—Richard Smith, P. L. Tracy, G. W. Lay, H. J. Redfield, B. Pringle, E. C. Dibble, I. A. Verplanck, M. Taggart, J. L. Brown, J. H. Martindale (district attorney), H. J. Glowackie, W. G. Bryan, S. Wakeman, J. D. Merrill, T. Fitch, M. W. Hewitt, H. Wilber, H. U. Soper (Judge of Genesee county), J. F. Lay, M. F. Robertson, E. Pringle, B. Young (county treasurer), J. H. Kimberly.

Forwarding and Commission Merchants.—L. A. Smith, J. Foot, J. Ganson & Co. Dry Goods Merchants.—Wm. H. Wells & Son, Smith & Warren, G. A. Lay, Nathan T. Smith, Thorn & Holden.

Hardware Merchants.—Belden Otis & Co., R. Haney.

Hotels.—American, B. G. Tisdale, Genesee House, S. N. Bierce, Western Hotel, I. Backus, Eagle Tavern, E. Hall, Railroad Depot, S. Frost, Dutch Tavern, A. Biechel.

Livery Stable.—Ferren & McCormick.

Cabinet Makers.—C. Kirkham, C. T. Buxton, J. T. Buxton, O. Griffith.

Carpenters and Joiners.—O. Dustin, R. W. Craig, D. Palmer, J. Coleman, S. Tuttle, J. L. Gardner, W. Lowden, L. Knapp, Mr. Rice, H. Graham, J. Palmer, J. R. Hart, L. Barner.

Blacksmiths.—F. Baxter, A. Tyrell, M. Kellogg, G. W. Miller, S. Lynn, J. Clark, J. Trumbull & Son.

Gunsmith.—I. M. Joslyn.

Saddle and Harness Makers.—Wm. Manley, A. J. Ensign, J. T. Carr.

Masons.—T. McCully, H. Murphy, J. Holten, D. Johnson, A. Wilcox.

Stonecutter.—Fellows & Co.

Furnacemen.—T. Hurlburt, J. R. Smith.

Baker.—B. C. & O. Page.

Cradle Maker.—H. Naramor.

Cooper.—Z. York.

Brewer.—E. H. Fish.

Barbers—J. Leonard, D. Leonard.

Butchers.—R. Fowler, R. Winn.

Druggists and Booksellers.—Wm. Seaver & Son, Fellows & Co.

¹ This list appears on the last page of Wm. Seaver's History of Batavia.

Grocers.—C. A. Russell, John Wilson, John Kenyon, J. McCullant, Wilson & Austin, S. A. Wilson, G. Knowles, J. & R. Eager.

Jewellers.—J. A. Clark, E. S. Dodge.

Hatters.—H. & E. M. McCormick, P. Warner.

Boot and Shoe Store.—T. Yates, A. Joslyn, H. M. Warren, Spencer & Merrill, M. Rupp, J. P. Phillips, J. Baker.

Milliners.—Mrs. Denslow, Mrs. Blake, Mrs. Griffith, Mrs. Showerman & Halbert.

Tailors.—G. B. Hurlburt, D. Ferguson, J. Jordan, J. M. Royce, Nathan Smith, John Allen, Biessenger & Rebstock.

Printers.—Wm. Seaver & Son, D. D. Wait.

Book Binder.—G. Kiesz.

Painters.—H. W. Ashling, Howe & Barnard, P. S. Moffett, E. Woolsey, O. N. Sanford, W. McIntyre.

Carriage Makers.—J. Clark, G. W. Miller, A. Peck.

On February 17, 1850, Batavia was visited by the most destructive fire in the history of the village up to that time. The fire originated about 11.30 A. M. in the two story wooden building on the north side of Genesee (Main) street, occupied by R. Haney as a hardware store. The wind was blowing strong from the west and the flames swept eastwardly until every building to the corner of Genesee and Bank streets was consumed. Among the principal buildings destroyed were the hardware store of R. Haney, loss \$8,000; the office and residence of Dr. H. Ganson, loss \$2,000; store of S. C. Holden, loss \$1,200; store owned by Hinman Holden and occupied by C. Kirkham as a cabinet shop; next the American hotel, the largest and most expensive building in the village, having cost over \$25,000, owned by Alva Smith and kept by B. G. Tisdale; a two story brick building owned by D. W. Tomlinson, who was fitting it up for the use of the Exchange Bank of Genesee, then located at Alexander; a building owned by Moses Taggart and occupied by Dr. J. Delamater as an office and dwelling, by Dr. Stevens, dentist, and by Mrs. Williams as a residence.

The year 1850 was marked by the organization of companies for the construction of plank roads between Batavia and Buffalo and between Batavia and Oakfield. The work of construction was begun soon after the formation of the companies referred to.

The Spirit of the Times of December 14, 1852, contained the following:

There is no mistake but this ancient Capital of the "Holland Purchase," is destined to maintain its rank and dignity, through all the changes that are constantly going on within and around it. To satisfy any of this fact, they have only to look at our thronged streets, and the business-like appearance of our stores, shops and

warehouses, all indicating continued, if not increasing prosperity. . . . We have now the great Central Railroad, with its six daily trains, beside the cross road to Attica, connecting us with the Buffalo and N. Y. City R. R. These, to which will soon be added the Canandaigua and Niagara Falls road, now nearly completed from this place westward, and the Buffalo and Conhocton Valley road to be finished next season, all combine to give us greater facilities for business or pleasure than any other town in the interior can boast, and tend directly to point out Batavia as "the greatest place of its size" in Western New York.

While thus blowing the trump of fame for the generalities of our Village, we must not omit to notice some of its new embellishments, prominent among which is the elegant Brick Block recently erected by Messrs. Dodge, Yates and the Odd Fellows, on the corner of Main and Jackson streets. The part owned by Mr. Dodge, on the Corner, is finished off in elegant style as a Jewelers store, and filled with his new stock of glittering wares, presents a splendid appearance. The other store belonging to Mr. Yates, is fitted up for a Shoe and Leather store, in a style and beauty, favorably comparing with that of Mr. Dodge. Both together, with their wide, elegantly finished doors, and immense sized glass set in metallic sash richly plated with silver, present a front truly magnificent, and the whole does honor to the enterprising proprietors.

The three story brick building erected by Mr. Godfrey, for Messrs. Onderdonk and Carr, as a Saddlery establishment, adjoining the store of W. H. Wells & Son, is now completed in a substantial and tasteful manner, and adds much to the beauty of that part of the village. Another decided improvement has been made by Mr. John Kenyon, in erecting a large addition to his old store. . . .

The Stone building formerly occupied by Mr. Ganson's Bank, is also undergoing improvements in the front, preparatory to its being occupied by Mr. Tomlinson with his Exchange Bank.

The Batavia Gas and Electric Light Company was organized as the Batavia Gas Light Company in 1855, with a capital of thirty two thousand five hundred dollars and these directors: George Brisbane, Daniel W. Tomlinson, Gad B. Worthington, S. C. Holden, Alva Smith, Frank Chamberlain and R. Merrifield. Mr. Tomlinson was president, secretary and treasurer, and W. H. Tompkins was superintendent. The first gas holder had a capacity of thirteen thousand five hundred feet. A new gas holder, with a capacity of thirty-five thousand feet, was built in 1878. Early in the year 1885 new works were erected for the manufacture of gas from crude petroleum. In 1886 the company established an electric lighting and heating plant, which it has since operated in conjunction with its gas plant.

The Batavia Fire Department was incorporated April 22, 1862, with the following trustees: David Seaver, Sanford S. Clark, Albert R. Warner, William M. Tuttle, Louis M. Cox, Benjamin Goodspeed, William H. Brown, John Passmore, Marsden J. Pierson, William D.

W. Pringle, George D. Kenyon, Hollis McCormick, Henry G. Champ-
lin, James Nugent and Samuel Jennison. The charter officers were:
President, David Seaver; vice-president, Sanford S. Clark; secretary,
Albert R. Warner; treasurer, George P. Pringle.

July 28, 1862, the board of trustees of the village adopted an "or-
dinance establishing fire districts" as follows:

District Number One.—All that portion of the village of Batavia
lying north of Main and west of Bank street.

District Number Two.—All that portion of the village lying north
of Main and east of Bank street.

District Number Three.—All that portion of the village lying south
of Main and east of Jackson street.

District Number Four.—All that portion of the village lying south
of Main and west of Jackson street.

The ordinance also provided that "at each and every fire it shall
be the duty of the Sexton, or person or persons ringing the Fire
Alarm Bell, to ring a general alarm for at least one minute, or until
the district wherein the fire occurs, can be ascertained, and immedi-
ately thereafter to strike the number, then to repeat the general
alarm for one minute, and afterwards the district alarm, continuing
the repetitions at proper intervals for at least thirty minutes, or
until the said alarm shall be ascertained to be false." It was also pro-
vided that "any watchman, sexton or other person who shall first
ring the correct district alarm of any actual fire, shall be entitled to
one dollar for each actual fire it is so rung."

The fire department, it was ordained, should consist of a chief en-
gineer and two assistant engineers, in addition to the trustees of the
village of Batavia, "and such fire engine men, hose men, hook and
ladder men, axe men and bucket men as are and may from time to
time be appointed by the Trustees of the Village of Batavia."

Before the organization of the department several fire companies had
been in existence in Batavia. Reference to some of these is found in
preceding pages. As early as September, 1829, Triton Fire Company
was organized. A hook and ladder company was formed in 1836,
while in 1850 two companies were formed—Pioneer Hook and Ladder
Company No. 1 and Neptune Engine Company No. 2. Red Jacket
Engine Company was another old fire company which existed for many
years. Hose Company No. 3 was organized in 1863 and Alert Hose
Company No. 1 in 1868. The old Rescue Engine Company No. 1 was

formally disbanded October 10, 1870. The first officers of Alert Hose Company were: President, C. E. Fish; vice-president, J. A. Mackey; foreman, J. E. Warren; assistant foreman, J. B. Hewitt; secretary, D. W. Tomlinson. The company, the oldest in the department, was incorporated May 5, 1879, the directors being J. M. Hamilton, Hinman Holden, M. K. Young, Ellis R. Hay and George J. Austin. The first fire attended by this company was that in the Western hotel, which stood on the site of the Schafer Commercial building, soon after the organization of the company.

At a meeting of the trustees of the fire department held July 14, 1862, the following persons were confirmed as firemen and the first members of the department:

Pioneer Hook and Ladder Ladder Company No. 1.—Henry S. Morse, George B. Edwards, William H. Preston, John Westphal.

Neptune Engine Company No. 2.—James E. Rosecrance, Patrick Donahue, Ernst Welker, Martin Erion, John Menger, Lemuel L. Tozier, Frank Nelo, Josiah P. Pierson, Michael Moran, Wm. E. Blake, Lyman Kraing, Henry Erbleding, Frank McDonald.

Neptune Hose Company No. 2.—Louis Mann, Byron S. Cotes, James H. Royce, Jeremiah O'Connell, Horatio Thomas, Daniel A. Lynch, John Corby.

Rescue Engine Company No. 1.—John Munger, Henry Steuber, Frank Newell, Brainard E. Forbes, Gottlieb Greishaber, Lewis Tevinn, John Strong, Horace Ford, Anson T. Bliss, James Giddings, James McKay, Adam Feurstein.

Rescue Hose Company No. 1.—Frank Decott, Frank Riley, Charles Morris, Daniel Connells, Thomas Kinney.

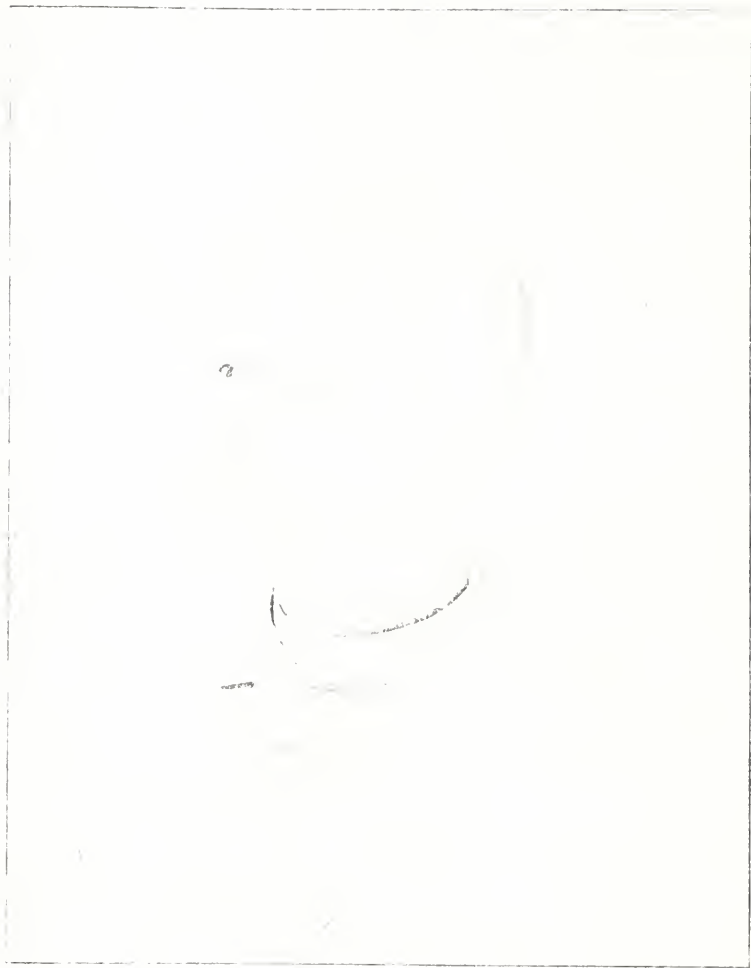
At the meeting held August 11 the following additional members were approved:

Neptune Engine Company No. 2.—James Buckley, James Whitman, Christian Wolf.

Neptune Hose Company No. 2.—Peter Lane, Charles A. Hastings, Ambrose N. Hanna, Collins Pratt.

Pioneer Hook and Ladder Company No. 1.—Joseph Houlman, A. F. Lawrence, Peter Warner.

Eagle Hose Company No. 1 was organized in 1862 and disbanded April 8, 1865. In the same year it was reorganized, and in 1868 it was again disbanded and Alert Hose Company organized in its place. Amphitrite Hose Company No. 2 and Union Hose Company No 3 were organized



J. H. Ward

1863. Amphitrite Hose Company was disbanded in 1867 and Richmond Hose Company No. 2 was formed in its place. The original Neptune Engine Company was disbanded August 23, 1869. Citizens' Hook and Ladder Company was formed in 1872, disbanded in 1874, reorganized in 1874, again disbanded in 1877, and once more reorganized in the latter year under the present name of Rescue Hook and Ladder Company. Zephyr Hose Company No. 3 was formed January 7, 1885, and Ellicott Hose Company No. 4 in November, 1896. The department at the present time consists of Alert Hose Company, Richmond Hose Company, Zephyr Hose Company, Ellicott Hose Company and Rescue Hook and Ladder Company.

The chief engineers of the department have been as follows: David Seaver, 1862-63; Albert R. Warner, 1864; Hollis McCormick, 1865; Pepworth Crabb, 1866; John L. Foster, 1867-71; Hollis McCormick, 1872-74; James M. Walkenshaw, 1875; Alvin J. Fox, 1876; O. J. Waterman, 1877-78; James M. Walkenshaw, 1879-1881; Joseph H. Robson, 1882; Cornwell D. Morgan, 1883-84; L. S. Croaker, 1885-86; Cornwell D. Morgan, 1887; Clarence B. Austin, 1888-97 (died in office); L. W. Hahn, 1897-98.

The Farmers' Bank of Batavia was established in 1856 as the Farmers' Bank of Attica, at Attica, by Leonidas Doty. The bank was moved to Batavia in 1860, and in 1862 the name was changed to the present one. Mr. Doty was also one of the founders of the First National Bank of Batavia. A few years ago the Farmers' Bank erected a commodious banking house at the southeast corner of Main and Jackson streets. A few year before that date John H. Ward had been admitted into partnership with Mr. Doty, and the former has been, since Mr. Doty's death in 1888, manager of the business. Since the death of Mr. Doty his widow, Mrs. Selina A. Doty, has controlled the interest of her husband in the bank.

The First National Bank of Batavia was founded March 21, 1864, with a capital stock of fifty thousand dollars and the following officers: R. H. Farnham, president; C. H. Monell, cashier; R. H. Farnham, Tracy Pardee, Henry Monell, Charles H. Monell and George Bowen, directors. Mr. Monell never held the position of cashier, Marcus L. Babcock being elected to the position June 4, 1864. May 31, 1865, the capital stock was increased to seventy-five thousand dollars, and January 9, 1883, it was further increased to one hundred thousand dollars. The following have served as officers of the bank:

Presidents.—R. H. Farnham, March 21, 1864, to June 29, 1865; Tracy

Pardee, June 29, 1865, to January 10, 1884; Levant C. McIntyre, January 10, 1884, to 1898; Samuel Parker, from April 21, 1898, to date.

Cashiers.—Charles H. Monell, March 21, 1864 (did not act); Marcus L. Babcock, June 4, 1864, to February 8, 1865; Daniel E. Waite, February 8, 1865, to August 13, 1866; Levant D. McIntyre, August 13, 1866, to January 16, 1884; Jerome L. Bigelow, January 16, 1884, to date.

Assistant Cashier.—George F. Bigelow, January 22, 1896, to date.

The various changes in the directorate of the bank have been as follows:

• 1864, Reuben H. Farnham, Tracy Pardee, Henry Monell, Charles H. Monell, George Bowen; 1866, John McKay, to succeed Henry Monell; 1867, Leonidas Doty; 1868, John Fisher, to succeed John McKay; 1869, number of directors increased to seven, and Tracy Pardee, Reuben H. Farnham, Leonidas Doty, John Fisher, George Brown, Gad B. Worthington and Cyrus Walker were elected; 1874, number of directors decreased to six, and all but Reuben H. Farnham were re-elected; 1881, E. B. Wilford; 1882, Daniel W. Tomlinson, to succeed E. B. Wilford; 1883, Samuel Parker, to succeed John Fisher, and Levant C. McIntyre to succeed Tracy Pardee; 1898, E. A. Washburn, to succeed Levant C. McIntyre, deceased.

The Genesee & Venango Petroleum Company was organized in Batavia in the winter of 1864-65, with a capital stock of three hundred thousand dollars, for the purpose of mining for petroleum in the oil regions of Pennsylvania. The charter officers of the corporation were: President, Reuben H. Farnham; vice-president, Elias A. Lewis; treasurer, Eli H. Fish; secretary, William H. Story; trustees, Trumbull Cary, Eli H. Fish, E. M. McCormick, Elias A. Lewis, Johnson B. Brown, Tracy Pardee, Lyman Terry, H. L. Onderdonk, R. H. Farnham.

The funeral services held at Batavia in honor of President Lincoln on Wednesday, April 19, 1865, were of a most impressive character. Upon the conclusion of religious services held in the respective churches, a procession formed in front of Ellicott hall at 1.30 p. m., under the direction of Hon. H. U. Soper, marshal, and J. Haskell, S. B. Lusk, Capt. Robert L. Foote and Lucas Seaver as assistant marshals. The large funeral car was draped in mourning and covered with the American flag. Beside it marched the following pall bearers: Daniel W. Tomlinson, Harry Wilber, J. C. Wilson, W. S. Mallory, E. A. Lewis, D. D. Waite, H. I. Glowacki, Seth Wakeman, Wilber Smith, John



Yours Truly,
Samuel Parker

Fisher, M. H. Bierce and R. O. Holden. On either side of the car the following gentlemen were mounted on horseback as a guard of honor: Captain L. Phillips, E. Wakeman, C. H. Dolbeer, B. S. Cotes, E. Stimson, O. S. Pratt, P. H. Smith and George Foote. Following them came the village officers, the Batavia fire department, public officers, veterans of the civil war and civic organizations. The procession marched down Main street to the Oak Orchard road, thence back along Big Tree street to Jackson, to Main, to Cemetery street to the front of the court house, where the following exercises took place:

Music, "Old Hundred," choir; prayer, Rev. Morelle Fowler; music, "The Departed," choir; address, Rev. Mr. Mussey; music, "Dead March," from Saul, Batavia band; address, Judge Soper; music, "America," choir; address, Wm. G. Bryan; benediction, Rev. S. M. Stimson.

The Western Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company for many years was a strong institution in Genesee county. In 1866 its officers were: President, Samuel Richmond; vice-president, Samuel Heston; secretary and treasurer, Horace M. Warren; directors, Samuel Willett, Heman J. Redfield, Samuel Richmond, Joseph Vallett, Elijah Platt, Samuel Heston, James L. Paine, Jacob Grant, Alvin Pease, Daniel Rosecrance, Hiram Chaddock, L. Douglass and John F. Plato.

The "Commercial building," located on the south side of Main street a short distance west of Jackson street, was originally occupied as a hotel. In 1837 a tavern known as the Central house was opened there by Daniel Latimer. In 1840 it became the property of Lamont H. Holden, brother of Hinman and Samuel C. Holden, who changed its name to that of Farmer hotel. It was in this hotel, while under the management of Mr. Holden, that the meetings of Batavia Lodge No. 88, F. & A. M., were held for some time. The property finally became known as the Western hotel. It was destroyed by fire May 20, 1860. Subsequently a commodious brick building was erected on the site, and for many years was run as a hotel under the names of Washburn house, Parker house, and others. In 1892 the property was repaired and remodeled for mercantile purposes, and is now one of the principal business blocks in Batavia.

The Batavia Farmers' Club was organized at Batavia in February, 1862, with these officers:

President, Henry Ives; vice-president, P. P. Bradish; secretary, J. G. Fargo; treasurer, Sanford Wilber; directors, Charles Gillett, C. D. Pond and Addison Foster.

The Batavia Library Association was incorporated by act of the Legislature April 27, 1872. The first trustees named in the charter were Gad B. Worthington, Edward C. Walker, Myron H. Peek, Sidney A. Sherwin, Robert B. Pease, Wilber Smith, Daniel W. Tomlinson, Henry F. Tarbox and George Bowen. By an act of the Legislature passed in 1887, the corporation was dissolved. The library, consisting of about 4,000 volumes together with \$3,500 in money, was turned over to the trustees of the Union Free School District, No. 2. The condition of the gift was that the fund should be kept forever intact and the income derived therefrom used, so far as needed, to maintain a reading room which the trustees were authorized to provide for, in connection with the Richmond Memorial Library.

The Bank of Batavia, now recognized as being one of the strongest financial institutions outside of the larger cities in Western New York, was incorporated July 11, 1876, with Jerome Rowan as president and William F. Merriman as cashier. Its original capital stock was fifty thousand dollars. Mr. Merriman resigned in September, 1878, and Marcus L. Babcock was elected to succeed him. In February, 1879, Mr. Babcock resigned and was succeeded by H. T. Miller. Mr. Rowan resigned as president in February, 1882, at which time Daniel W. Tomlinson was elected to succeed him. Up to this time the bank had not been successful; but with the change in management new life was put into the establishment, and from the smallest institution of its kind in Batavia, it soon grew to be the largest, its capital being increased twice—from fifty thousand to one hundred thousand dollars in March, 1883, and to one hundred and fifty thousand dollars in March, 1891. The payment of dividends was begun in the fall of 1883, since which time they have been regularly paid twice each year. At the same time the bank has built up a surplus of over one hundred thousand dollars, with resources exceeding one million one hundred thousand dollars. In 1895 the new fire proof building on the south side of Main street was erected. This is probably the finest building occupied exclusively by any country banking house in New York State.

Considerable enthusiasm over military affairs developed in Batavia in 1876, with the result that a number of the citizens of the village made application to General Franklin Townsend of Albany, adjutant-general of the State of New York, for permission to organize a separate company of the National Guard of the State of New York. The desired permission was granted in the following order by the adju-

tant-general, the company having previously been formed and officers elected:

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, STATE OF NEW YORK,
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE.

ALBANY, July 28, 1876.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. 120.

Application having been made in proper form for the organization in the village of Batavia, Genesee county, of a Company of Infantry, to be attached to the 31st Brigade, 5th Division, National Guards, State of New York, said Company is hereby organized with the following named Officers, who will be commissioned with rank from July 22, 1876:

Captain, Orrin C. Parker; first lieutenant, George W. Griffiths; second lieutenant, Alvin J. Fox.

Said Company will be known and designated as the Fifth Separate Company of Infantry of the 31st Brigade, National Guard, State of New York.

By Order of the Commander-in-Chief.

(Signed)

FRANKLIN TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

The original members of the company in 1876 were as follows:

Captain, Orrin C. Parker; first lieutenant, George W. Griffiths; second lieutenant, Alvin J. Fox; first sergeant, James M. Waite; quarter-master-sergeant, Lawrence L. Crosby; second sergeant, Henry C. Fish; third sergeant, Charles V. Hooper; fourth sergeant, John G. Johnson; fifth sergeant, Peter Thomas; first corporal, George Crawford; second corporal, Andrew Rupp; third corporal, William H. Kendall; fourth corporal, Thomas Gallagher; fifth corporal, Henry A. Thompson; sixth corporal, Robert Peard; seventh corporal, John A. Mackey; eighth corporal, Frederick F. Smith; musicians, William H. Bradish, Herbert L. Collamer.

Privates, Aaron Alpaugh, Ira Brady, Harlan J. Brown, Hiland H. Benjamin, George H. Buisch, Frank W. Biddleman, William H. Buckholts, John Buckholts, Levant Bullock, Henry Crego, Frank S. Cross, Henry A. Cross, Henry Curry, James C. Cummings, Thomas Cummings, John Cummings, Frank C. Campbell, William E. Casey, John P. Casey, William E. Dawson, Philip Ditzel, John Didget, Jacob Erion, Chester Ford, Charles E. Fish, Pratt Flanders, Walter K. Gould, Joseph T. Garnier, Frederick Hess, James M. Harris, Hiram Harris, Ellis R. Hay, Alonzo N. Henshaw, Frank Homelius, Henry W. Homelius, John M. Hamilton, Anthony Horsch, Frederick L. Hovey, George M. Hermance, Newton Johns, Frank Johnson, Homer N. Kelsey, Harvey W. Kendall, Benjamin F. Lowns, John B. Leonard, Edwin S. Lent,

Alva W. Lewis, Charles Lawson, Asa F. Lawrence, Charles Little, John D. Maloy, Malcolm D. Mix, Samuel P. Mix, John W. Mix, jr., Redmond Manning, Frank S. Moloney, Robert A. Maxwell, William Metzger, Callaghan McDonald, John B. Neasmith, Rodger O'Donohue, Edward O'Connor, Charles B. Peck, William T. Pond, Robert Peard, William Powell, Van A. Pratt, Charles W. Pratt, Wirt B. Quale, Michael Rebmeister, Daniel Rodgers, Joseph Roth, Marvin A. Seamans, Silas H. Smith, Sanford Spalding, Frederick M. Sheffield, M. Cleveland Terry, Peter Tompkins, John Thomas, Charles A. Thompson, Charles J. Tryon, W. W. Whitney, Albert Weber, Frederick E. Williams.

This company, which bore the name of "Batavia Rifles," enjoyed an interesting career of about seven years, and was disbanded in 1883. A second independent military company, also known as the "Batavia Rifles," was organized December 24, 1894, with these officers: President, C. B. Stone; secretary, Claude Giddings; treasurer, Frank Homelius; collector, Edward Thomas; captain, H. W. Homelius; first lieutenant, W. A. Hooker; second lieutenant, Charles Moll; orderly sergeant, James Dunning; color guard, Frank Stephenson. This company, however, had but a brief existence, and never became an organization of the New York National Guard.

The Wiard Plow Company is one of the most celebrated establishments in the world devoted to the manufacture of plows. The concern is also the oldest of its kind in the United States, having been founded in 1804 by Thomas Wiard, sr., a blacksmith and farmer residing at East Avon, N. Y. His first plow was of the ancient pattern known as the "bull plow," large numbers of which were made by hand by Mr. Wiard for the use of the pioneers of Western New York. In 1815 Jethro Wood of Aurora (then Scipio), N. Y., the inventor of the first successful cast-iron plow, sold Mr. Wiard the necessary castings, which the latter completed and attached wooden handles thereto in his shop. Four years later he found his facilities for manufacture entirely inadequate, by reason of the increasing population of the community and the consequent growing demand for the output of his little smithy; so he erected a foundry at East Avon, where he made patterns for improved plows, manufacturing all the parts thereof himself. Here, in connection with his three sons—Seth, Henry and Matthew—he continued the manufacture of these implements until his death about 1820. One or more of these sons continued the business at East Avon until 1871. All were men of great ingenuity and constantly were at work

Geo. Wiard

devising improvements in the plows they manufactured, until they had become celebrated as the makers of the most satisfactory implements of this nature in the country.

October 1, 1871, George Wiard, son of William Wiard, became half owner of the establishment at East Avon. In 1871 Charles W. Hough, treasurer of the company, purchased the interest of Matthew Wiard, the firm becoming Wiard & Hough.

During the career of the concern at East Avon the works were destroyed by fire and rebuilt several times. In 1876, to such proportions had the business grown, it was decided to remove the industry to a point where the transportation facilities would be better than those offered at East Avon. Learning of the determination of the company, the citizens of Batavia donated a site for the proposed new plant, located on Swan street, between the New York Central and Hudson River and the Erie railroads, and the company accepted the proposition offered. The new plant was completed in September, 1876, and about the same time a new company was organized and incorporated under the name of the Wiard Plow Company, with a capital stock of fifty thousand dollars. This amount was subsequently increased to one hundred thousand dollars. George Wiard was the president of the new corporation and C. W. Hough the secretary and treasurer. The other incorporators were Eli Fish, John Green and Joseph H. Smith. Mr. Wiard also assumed the duties of superintendent. These gentlemen still occupy the same offices in the company, excepting that J. J. Washburn acts as secretary, relieving Mr. Hough of a share of his duties. Mr. Washburn succeeded Mr. Smith in the concern in May, 1880. The original capital stock of the company, sixty-three thousand dollars, was increased at the end of the first year to one hundred thousand dollars, and five years later to one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, the present capital. While the principal business of the company is the manufacture of its widely celebrated plows, it is also the inventor of improvements in sulky hay rakes, which it has been manufacturing for several years. The establishment turns out many varieties of plows, adapted to all kinds of soil and all other conditions. It also manufactures hop and potato cultivators, patent sulky plows, Emperor sulky rakes, Morgan patent spading harrows, Wiard disc harrows, Wiard adjustable weeders, and automatic hand corn planters. The company's territory includes everything east of Lake Michigan and as far south as Florida, Georgia, Tennessee and Kentucky, including those States, and

many foreign countries. The present plant covers about five and a half acres. Numerous improvements thereto have been made from time to time, among the latest being the new office building erected in 1897. An average of one hundred hands is employed the year around. It is a notable fact that the company has never shut down in its history, excepting for a few days in the summer of each year for the purpose of making the necessary repairs. Its employes are for the most part thoroughly skilled workmen.

The Batavia Preserving Company is an institution which could flourish in few places as it does in the geographical centre of Western New York, the most famous fruit-growing country in the world. The enterprise was established originally in 1879 by John Pierson, who began canning fruits and vegetables for the market, at Bushville. Though supplied with all the necessary appliances, lack of proper attention to the details of the business rendered it pecuniarily unsuccessful at the beginning. In 1881 the establishment became the property of the Bank of Batavia, which for one year conducted the business at Bushville. The following year it was purchased by Sprague, Warner & Co. of Chicago, who a year afterward removed it to the village of Batavia, where a marvelous development of the business was begun. So great was the increase in the demand for the product of the establishment that the erection of more commodious and convenient buildings was necessary. Into these the industry was removed in May, 1888. The business still growing at a wonderful rate, the present company was incorporated in 1891, and placed under the management of C. H. Francis. To-day the company controls three factories—at Batavia, Middleport and Brockport, N. Y., located in the heart of what undoubtedly is the finest fruit and vegetable growing section of the world. The Batavia factory has a floor area of over fifty thousand square feet, and the other factories are nearly as large, and of similar character. The Batavia factory is run exclusively, during the season, upon green peas and sweet corn, using the production of hundreds of acres of the best farming lands in Genesee county. Nowhere in the world are better vegetables grown than in Western New York, and nowhere are they better prepared for the trade with more skill and care than in the factories operated by this company. Each of the factories devotes itself only to such products as can best be raised in that locality and marketed at their doors in best condition. Thus the factory at Brockport packs small fruits, tomatoes, string beans and apples; while the plant

at Middleport is devoted to peaches, pears, squash, etc. The company also cans Bahama pineapples, baked beans, jams, jellies, preserves and crushed fruits, fruit syrups and juices for soda-fountains. Chicken and turkey are also canned in large quantities. The industry naturally is closely identified with the prosperity of the rural sections of Genesee county and Western New York.

The Genesee County Bank, of Batavia, was organized April 4, 1879, as the Genesee County National Bank, with a capital stock of fifty thousand dollars, and the following officers: President, Solomon Masse, vice-president, Dean Richmond, jr.; cashier, William F. Merriman; directors, Solomon Masse, Dean Richmond, jr., Dr. H. S. Hutchins, Charles R. Gould, Henry Craft, William C. Watson, William F. Merriman, J. C. Guiteau, Edwin Darrow, H. A. Huntington, and F. C. Lathrop. December 31, 1884, the bank surrendered its charter to the federal government and was reorganized as a State bank. At its annual meeting January 14, 1890, the bank voted to go into voluntary liquidation, and is still engaged in closing up its business. The officers of the bank have been:

Presidents.—Solomon Masse, April 4, 1879, to July 14, 1885; Royal T. Howard, July 14, 1885, to September 10, 1894; H. A. Huntington, September 10, 1894, to date.

Vice-Presidents.—Dean Richmond, jr., April 4, 1879, to January 12, 1882; Dr. H. S. Hutchins, January 12, 1882, to January 9, 1883; William C. Watson, January 9, 1883, to date.

Cashiers.—William F. Merriman, April 4, 1879, to June 2, 1880; Charles R. Gould, June 22, 1880, to August 28, 1882; Jerome L. Bigelow, August 28, 1882, to January 18, 1884; John W. Smith, January 18, 1884, to date.

An institution which has proven a great boon to a large number of inhabitants of Batavia is the Genesee County Permanent Loan and Building Association, which was organized April 15, 1879. Organization was perfected by the election of the following officers:

President, Wilber Smith; vice-president, Charles H. Howard; secretary, Frederick M. Sheffield; treasurer, Frank S. Wood; attorney, Saford E. North; directors—three years, Royal T. Howard, Charles H. Howard, Dr. Horace S. Hutchins; two years, George Wiard, Wilber Smith, Lucien R. Bailey; one year, Theron F. Woodward, James R. Mitchell, Charles Houghton.

The capital of the association consists of shares of one hundred and

twenty-five dollars each, payable in weekly installments of twenty-five cents for each share. The charter provides that the number of shares outstanding at any one time shall not exceed five thousand.

Wilber Smith was succeeded as president in 1881 by George Wiard, who has served continuously in that office since that time. Hon. Safford E. North has served as attorney for the association continuously since its organization. The officers of the association in 1897 were: President, George Wiard; vice-president, M. B. Adams; secretary, W. G. Pollard; treasurer, J. W. Pratt; attorney, Safford E. North; directors, George Wiard, M. B. Adams, J. W. Pratt, Safford E. North, W. W. Lewis, G. S. Griswold, John P. Casey, F. W. Board and George J. Austin.

On the 4th day of August, 1880, General Garfield, then the Republican nominee for the presidency, passed through Batavia. Although at a very early hour in the morning General Garfield was dressed and appeared at the rear platform of the car where he spoke a few words to the large crowd which had assembled. He introduced Gen. Benjamin Harrison who spoke about three minutes, when the train moved away. Batavia thus had the unusual distinction of having within its borders at the same time two men destined to become president.

The only time Grover Cleveland ever appeared in public at Batavia was during the famous grape sugar trial in 1880. He was one of the attorneys for the plaintiff. Hon. Loran L. Lewis of Buffalo, who has since won distinction as a justice of the Supreme Court, was the leading counsel for the plaintiff. He examined most of the witnesses, opened the case to the jury and summed it up with the masterly skill for which he is justly famed. Associated with him were Mr. Cleveland and Addison G. Rice of the Buffalo bar and Hon. George Bowen of Batavia. The defendants were represented by Sherman S. Rogers and Franklin D. Locke of Buffalo and William G. Watson of Batavia. The title of the case was John L. Alberger against the Buffalo Grape Sugar Company, Cicero J. Hamlin and William Hamlin. Hon. Albert Haight presided. The trial began November 30 and on the 10th of December the jury rendered a verdict for the plaintiff for \$247,125; this was by all odds the largest verdict ever rendered in Genesee county and one of the largest verdicts ever rendered by a jury in this State. No appeal was ever taken and the judgment was promptly paid with costs.

This case, in some respects the most remarkable ever tried in Gene-

see county, originated in Erie county, the venue being laid there. A trial at Buffalo resulted in a disagreement of the jury; the place of trial was removed to Genesee county on the ground that the case had attracted so much attention in Erie county that an impartial jury could not be obtained. A struck jury was ordered, the only one ever drawn in Genesee county. Forty-eight prominent citizens were selected by the county clerk as provided by law, and from this number eleven jurors were obtained, the panel was then exhausted and William Carpenter, who happened to be sitting in the court room, was drawn as a talesman. The jurors were as follows: Perry Randall, foreman; Elbert Townsend, Miles B. Adams, Henry P. Ellenwood, Edward A. Brown, Sherman Reed, Joseph F. Stutterd, Robert S. Fargo, David C. Holmes, Richard Pearson, Ancil D. Mills and William Carpenter.

Mr. Cleveland's firm were not the attorneys of record in the case. He acted as advisory counsel throughout the trial and conducted the direct examination of Williams, the plaintiff's principal witness, and who was understood to be the real party in interest.

The E. N. Rowell Company, manufacturers of paper boxes at Batavia, was originally instituted in 1881. It is an offshoot of one established before 1860 at Utica, N. Y., by Dr. A. S. Palmer, who made his own pill boxes with implements of his own invention. After Dr. Palmer's death the business was carried on by his children until 1881, when it was removed to Batavia. The business increased rapidly, and in 1890 a stock company was incorporated by Edward N. Rowell, the former sole owner of the business, Edward G. Buell and William W. Dorman. The factory is located in a three-story brick building located on Ellicott street, at its junction with Main, where about one hundred and twenty-five persons are employed. The present officers of the company are: President and treasurer, Edward N. Rowell; vice-president, Edward G. Buell; secretary, C. H. Ruprecht.

The Batavia Club was founded July 28, 1882, with nine directors, as follows: Lucien R. Bailey, Daniel W. Tomlinson, John Holley Bradish, Arthur E. Clark, Frank S. Wood, Augustus N. Cowdin, John H. Ward, A. T. Miller and W. L. Otis. Daniel W. Tomlinson was elected the first president, J. H. Bradish vice-president, A. T. Miller secretary, Frank S. Wood treasurer, and Lucien R. Bailey, W. L. Otis and Arthur E. Clark house committee. January 4, 1883, the club took possession of its first quarters, located on East Main street near Dellinger's opera house. This building was destroyed by fire February 16, 1886, and

April 17 following the club removed to the building it now occupies, on the northeast corner of East Main and Bank streets, formerly occupied by the Bank of Genesee. The club was incorporated April 7, 1888, and soon afterward purchased the building it occupies.

The Batavia Manufacturing Company was incorporated in 1883 to manufacture the Post sewing machines, by Lucien R. Bailey, H. I. Glowacki, Columbus Buell, C. J. Ferrin, jr., and C. H. Howard. The Batavia Sewing Machine Company was organized in 1884 to succeed the first-named company. No machines were ever manufactured and the company soon ceased to exist.

Upton Post No. 299, Grand Army of the Republic, so named in honor of General Emory Upton, was organized October 25, 1882, under general orders from department headquarters, dated October 14, 1882. The officers who instituted the post were as follows: H. S. Stanbach, Post 9, commander; L. S. Oatman, Post 9, senior vice-commander; C. S. King, Post 219, junior vice-commander; A. G. Rykert, Post 219, adjutant; L. F. Allen, Post 219, quartermaster; A. J. Lorish, Post 219, chaplain; Jacob U. Creque, Post 226, officer of the day; G. S. Farwell, Post 220, officer of the guard; E. N. Havens, Post 9, inside sentinel; E. A. Halcomb, Post 219, sergeant major; Julius Baker, Post 219, quartermaster sergeant. The charter members of the post were as follows:

W. J. Reedy, W. H. Raymond, George Thayer, John O. Griffiths, O. C. Parker, Morris McMullen, C. R. Nichols, Peter Thomas, L. L. Crosby, Russell Crosby, Timothy Lynch, Lucius R. Bailey, Henry C. Fish, Charles A. Sloan, Irving D. Southworth, William Radley, B. M. Chesley, George W. Mather, George H. Wheeler, Daniel W. Griffiths, William H. Hunn, Edward F. Moulton, Peter Welker, James F. Bennett, Oscar D. Hammond, Charles Lilly, John K. Giddings, James Conway, Frank Fanning, William Squires.

The post had for its first corps of officers the following comrades:

Commander, W. J. Reedy; senior vice-commander, W. H. Raymond; junior vice-commander, George Thayer; quartermaster, John O. Griffiths; officer of the day, O. C. Parker; officer of the guard, Morris McMullin; chaplain, C. R. Nichols; adjutant, Peter Thomas; sergeant major, L. L. Crosby; quartermaster sergeant, Russell Crosby. At the first meeting of the post the following comrades were mustered in as members of the post: Edson J. Winslow, Edwin J. Fox, Edward C. Peck, George McGregor, Charles McGregor, Burr Kenyon, William Gay, Fred. Kelpenberg.

Following is a complete list of the commanders and adjutants of Upton Post from the date of its organization to the present time:

Commanders.—1883-1885, William J. Reedy; 1886, Timothy Lynch; 1887, W. J.

Reedy; 1888, Whiting C. Woolsey; 1889, Edward A. Perrin; 1890, John Thomas; 1891, Frank M. Jameson; 1892-1893, John Thomas; 1894, D. W. Griffiths; 1895-1896, George W. Stanley; 1897, George H. Wheeler; 1898, Addison G. Negus.

Adjutants.—1883-1885, Peter Thomas; 1886-1888, L. L. Crosby; 1889-1894, Anson M. Weed; 1895-1897, Addison G. Negus.

The names of the members of the post at the present date, with their residences and the names of the commands with which they served during the Civil war, are:

Ahl, Henry.....	Batavia.....	Co. D, 15th H. A.
Austin, N. J.....	Albion.....	Co. D, 9th Cav.
Barton, Isaac R.....	Batavia.....	Co. F, 43d Ohio Vol.
Buell, Melvin.....	Batavia.....	Bat. L, 1st N. Y.
Bowe, E. A.....	Batavia.....	3d 76th N. Y. Vol.
Burns, James M.....	Batavia.....	Co. C, 4th H. A.
Birmingham, M.....	Batavia.....	Co. G, 129th N. Y. Vol.
Bloss, E. L.....	Batavia.....	Co. H, 85th N. Y. Vol.
Burrroughs, Wm. A.....	Pembroke.....	Co. G, 8th N. Y. H. A.
Braley, Wm.....	Elba.....	Co. I, 81st N. Y. Vol.
Conrad, Jacob.....	Alexander.....	Co. G, 160th N. Y. Vol.
Colville, W. L.....	Batavia.....	Co. L, 2d N. Y. Cav.
Crosby, L. L.....	Batavia.....	U. S. Signal Corps.
Crosby, R.....	Elba.....	Co. H, 129th N. Y. Vol.
Conway, James.....	Batavia.....	Co. K, 12th N. Y. Vol. and Co. L, 8th N. Y. H. A.
Colt, J. B.....	Batavia.....	Co. A, 9th N. Y. Cav.
Collins, John.....	Batavia.....	Co. M, 8th N. Y. H. A.
Capel, Robert.....	Elba.....	Co. D, 49th N. Y. Vol.
Clark, Livingston.....	Batavia.....	Co. I, 12th N. Y. Vol.
Collins, Albert G.....	Batavia.....	Co. I, 151st N. Y. Vol.
Cooper, James A.....	Batavia.....	Co. F, 110th N. Y. Vol.
Crocker, George.....	Bethany.....	Co. L, 8th N. Y. H. A.
Churchill, R. E.....	Batavia.....	Co. K, 10th N. Y. Vol.
Dolbeer, Charles.....	Batavia.....	24th N. Y. Battery.
Dewey, C. E.....	Batavia.....	Co. A, 90th N. Y. Vol.
Durfey, Charles.....	Batavia.....	Co. G, 184th N. Y. Vol.
Duffy, John.....	Batavia.....	Co. C, 151st N. Y. Vol.
Edwards, C. D.....	Batavia.....	Co. A, 140th N. Y. Vol.
Elliott, Edwin R.....	East Pembroke.....	Co. E, 110th N. Y. Vol.
Follett, E.....	Batavia.....	Co. K, 12th N. Y. Vol.
Foster, J. P.....	Rochester.....	Co. A, 9th H. A.
Foley, Tim.....	Batavia.....	Co. A, 11th N. Y. Vol.
Ford, George.....	Batavia.....	Co. G, 8th N. Y. H. A.
Farnsworth, S. W.....	Oakfield.....	Co. B, 1st N. Y. Dragoons.
Griffis, J. O.....	Batavia.....	22d N. Y. Battery and 2d N. Y. H. A.
Griffis, D. W.....	Batavia.....	Co. C, 151st N. Y. Vol.

Giddings, John K.	Batavia	Co. C, 44th N. Y. Vol.
Gardiner, J. A.	Batavia	Co. F, W. Va. Vol.
Gardiner, W. C.	Batavia	Co. D, 26th N. Y. Vol.
Greene, J. O.	Alexander	Co. A, 3d N. Y. Cav.
Gibhart, C.	Elba	Co. I, 8th N. Y. H. A.
Hunn, William H.	Elba	Co. I, 8th N. Y. H. A.
Holloran, M.	Batavia	Co. I, 151st N. Y. Vol.
Hammond, O. D.	Batavia	Co. G, 160th N. Y. Vol.
Hoyt, J. H.	Elba	Co. I, 8th N. Y. H. A.
Hayes, M.	Batavia	Co. C, 151st N. Y. Vol.
Hundredmark, G. F.	Oakfield	Co. A, 105th N. Y. Vol.
Hough, C. W.	Batavia	Co. E, 135th N. Y. Vol.
Jones, D. M.	Batavia	Co. M, 8th H. A.
Jameson, F. M.	Batavia	Co. G, 140th N. Y. Vol.
Kelley, John	Batavia	Co. H, 24th N. Y. Vol.
Kelley, Seneca	Auburn	Co. A, 89th N. Y. Vol.
Kendall, W. C.	Batavia	Co. G, 8th N. Y. H. A.
Kenyon, E.	Batavia	Co. G, 8th N. Y. H. A.
Kinell, Charles	Batavia	114th N. Y. Vol.
Lynch, T.	Batavia	Co. E., 100th N. Y. Vol.
Lock, W. G.	Batavia	14th N. Y. Vol.
Lesler, Peter	Pembroke	25th N. Y. Ind. Batt.
Leifer, G. W.	Batavia	Co. G, 50th N. Y. Vol. Eng.
Lincoln, F. M.	Batavia	Co. K, 12th N. Y. Vol.
Moulton, A. H.	Alexander	22d Ind. Batt.
Muntz, John	Batavia	Co. G, 8th N. Y. H. A.
Moulton, E. F.	Batavia	U. S. Signal Corps.
McPhail, John	Batavia	Co. B, 100th N. Y. Vol.
Mahoney, Cam	Batavia	Co. G, 8th N. Y. H. A.
Myers, John	Batavia	Co. D, 49th N. Y. V.
Negus, A. G.	Batavia	Co. G, 9th Hawkins Zouaves.
Nash, F.	Batavia	Co. B, 93d N. Y. Vol.
Odion, R. C.	Batavia	Co. E, 105th N. Y. Vol.
Osgood, A. W.	Batavia	Co. G, 23d N. Y. Vol.
Perrin, E. A.	Batavia	Co. F, 4th N. Y. H. A.
Power, E.	Batavia	Seaman on "Juniaa."
Prescott, F.	Batavia	Co. I, 3d R. Corps.
Putnam, J. H.	Batavia	Co. A, 76th N. Y. Vol.
Quance, Willard	Batavia	Co. F, 94th N. Y. Vol.
Raymond, W. H.	Elba	Co. H, 129th N. Y. Vol.
Radley, William	Batavia	Co. I, 8th N. Y. H. A.
Rolfe, Lucius	Batavia	Co. E, 105th N. Y. Vol.
Robinson, W. N.	Batavia	Co. A, 1st N. Y. Infantry.
Reed, J. E.	Batavia	Co. B, 164th Ohio N. G.
Robbins, F. J.	Bethany	26th N. Y. Batt.
Russell, C. M.	Batavia	Co. H, 38th N. Y. Vol.
Stanley, G. W.	Batavia	Co. D, 2d N. Y. Cav.

Stanley, L. B.	Batavia.....	Co. I, 151st N. Y. Vol.
Southworth, I. D.	Batavia.....	25th N. Y. Ind. Batt.
Squires, W.	Batavia.....	25th N. Y. Ind. Batt.
Scheer, George.....	Batavia.....	Co. B, 9th Ohio Vol.
Sennate, R.	Batavia.....	Co. G, 26th N. Y. Vol.
Smith, J.	Batavia.....	Co. C, 151st N. Y. Vol.
Staveley, J.	Batavia.....	E. V. C. N. Y.
Thayer, G. W.	Indian Falls.....	Co. F, 28th N. Y. V. M. 2 M. R.
Travis, L.	Batavia.....	Co. D, 3d Mich. Inf.
Taylor, Thomas.....	Batavia.....	Co. B, 10th N. Y. Cav.
Toll, Simon J.	Bethany.....	Co. B, 1st Iowa Cav.
Thomas, John.....	Batavia.....	Co. G, 8th N. Y. H. A.
Thomas, Peter.....	Batavia.....	Co. E, 49th N. Y. Vol.
Tarbox, H. F.	Batavia.....	Co. C, 108th N. Y. Vol.
Tripp, A. J.	Oakfield.....	Co. E, 2d N. Y. H. A.
Tournier, George M.	Batavia.....	Co. G, 3d Light Art.
Thomas, Edward A.	Batavia.....	Landsmsn, ship "Shenango.
Welch, Pat.....	Batavia.....	Co. F, 108th N. Y. Inf.
Welch, William.....	Alexander.....	Co. M, 9th H. Art.
Wheeler, G. H.	Batavia.....	K, 12th N. Y. V. & F, 5th N. Y. V. C.
Welker, Peter.....	Elba.....	Co. M, 8th N. Y. H. Art.
Winslow, E.	Batavia.....	Co. H, 129th N. Y. Vol.
Woolsey, W. C.	Batavia.....	Co. I, 96th Ill. Vol.
Weed, A. M.	Batavia.....	Co. L, 50 N. Y. Vol. Eng.
Wright, C. M.	Batavia.....	Co. C, 8th N. Y. H. Art.
Ward, E.	Bergen.....	22d N. Y. Ind. Batt.
Whitney, C. M.	Ray, N. Y.	Co. G, 8th N. Y. H. Art.
Wagner, F.	Batavia.....	Co. C, 151st N. Y. Vol.
Zurhorst, A. F.	Alabama.....	Co. G, 21st N. Y. Cav.

The Batavia Carriage Wheel Company is the outgrowth of the industry founded on a modest scale in 1882 by A. M. Colt, James R. Colt and Moses E. True, for the manufacture of clamps, saw handles and hardware specialties. In 1885 John M. Sweet became identified with the original firm, styled Colt Brothers & True, and the energies of these gentlemen were then directed more particularly to the manufacture of the celebrated Sweet carriage wheels. The works were then located on Exchange place. They were destroyed by fire in 1887, soon after which the present stock company was incorporated and a new plant built on Walnut street, adjoining the tracks of the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad. The buildings and machinery cost upwards of forty thousand dollars.

The trade of the Batavia Carriage Wheel Company has steadily developed until to-day it extends throughout the entire United States and

into many foreign lands. Its product includes carriage wheels of every description, its specialty in recent years being wheels with rubber tires. Besides these it manufactures Sweet's concealed band, the Kenney band, and the Sarven & Warner patent and plain wood hub wheels. The concern has contributed very largely to the industrial development of Batavia. Its officers are: President, Frank Richardson; vice-president, W. C. Gardiner; secretary, William W. Leavenworth; treasurer, A. M. Colt; superintendent, John M. Sweet.

The Johnston Harvester Company for seventeen years has been closely identified with the welfare and progress of the village of Batavia. As the iron industry has made Pittsburg famous, as the collar industry has made Troy famous, as the knit goods industry has made Fall River and Cohoes famous, so has this great industry known as the Johnston Harvester Company made the name of Batavia famous throughout not only the United States but many foreign countries.

This concern is not only the most important in Batavia, but it is one of the most noted of its kind in the world, and its establishment in Batavia has been instrumental, more than any other single agency, in directing attention to this thriving industrial centre. This mammoth concern had its inception in a small machinery manufacturing firm, originally instituted in Brockport, N. Y., by Fitch, Barry & Co., more than half a century ago. It was in this early factory, in 1847, that the McCormick reapers, now celebrated the world over, were constructed. In 1850 this firm became Ganson, Huntley & Co., and in 1853 Huntley, Bowman & Co. In 1868 Samuel Johnston, Byron E. Huntley and others entered into a co-partnership under the firm name of Johnston, Huntley & Co., for the purpose of continuing and enlarging the business being carried on at Brockport. Mr. Huntley was the principal member of the firm, which at first devoted its energies principally to the manufacture of the "Johnston Sweepstakes." In 1871 the company was incorporated under its present style, with Mr. Johnston as president and Mr. Huntley as secretary and treasurer. A few years later the manufacture of the old machine was abandoned and the construction of the now celebrated Johnston harvester was begun. In 1874 Mr. Johnston withdrew from the corporation and left Mr. Huntley still at its head, though the name of the company remained unchanged.

In June, 1882, while the company was enjoying a prosperous and rapidly increasing business, the works at Brockport were destroyed by



Byron E. Hunter

fire. When the company began to consider the question of rebuilding, it was decided to locate the new plant in a place offering better transportation facilities than those which had been enjoyed at Brockport, and Batavia was selected as the site for the greatly enlarged and improved manufactory which it was determined to build. Accordingly the present mammoth plant, which has been enlarged and improved from time to time, was constructed and occupied, and within an inconceivably short time after the burning of the plant at Brockport, operations in the present magnificent lot of factories were resumed, with an increased number of employes and new and improved machinery. Commodious as the present buildings are, they have proved entirely inadequate to meet the requirements of the constantly increasing business of the company, and extensive additions to the plant have recently been made.

The works of the Johnston Harvester Company occupy a tract of about seventeen acres of land principally between and south of the lines of the New York Central and Hudson River and the Erie railroads, each building being especially designed and adapted for its particular part of the work. Probably no other plant in America is arranged in a more systematic and orderly manner or more independent of outside assistance. Side tracks connect the works with the railways running through the village. Over six hundred persons, a large proportion of whom are skilled workmen, are regularly employed. The output of the company's plant consists exclusively of harvesting machinery, disk implements, and sugar beet cultivating and harvesting machinery. The principal machines manufactured are mowers, binders, reapers, rakes, headers, disk harrows, disk cultivators, corn harvesters, beet cultivators, and beet harvesters, and toppers. The company has distributing warehouses for its products at twenty of the leading commercial centres of the United States, and sales agencies at all points throughout the agricultural sections of the country, with a European office at Paris, France. The officers of the company are: President, Byron E. Huntley; vice-president and treasurer, E. W. Atwater; secretary, L. D. Collins; superintendent, G. A. Farrall. E. J. Mockford, who had been vice president, retired from the company December 1, 1898.

The Richmond Memorial Library was erected in 1887 by Mrs. Mary E. Richmond, widow of Dean Richmond, as a memorial to her son, Dean Richmond, jr., who died in 1885. The building, a handsome

fireproof structure, is located on the west side of Ross street, nearly opposite the high school. Its front is of light gray Fredonia sandstone and red Albion stone, a combination as picturesque and suitable as any that could possibly be planned. The style of architecture is Romanesque. The building cost about thirty-five thousand dollars. It was completed and presented to the village March 12, 1889. It has a capacity of 40,000 volumes, though the number of volumes on the shelves now is between 11,000 and 12,000 only.

The Young Men's Christian Association was founded in the spring of 1889 with these officers: President, Levant C. McIntyre; vice president, Safford E. North; general secretary, C. H. Harrington; recording secretary, A. H. Thomas; treasurer, John M. McKenzie. For some time the rooms were located on the corner of Main and Jackson streets, but the association now has quarters in the old Alva Smith residence at the head of Park avenue which for many years was used for a ladies' seminary.

The Western hotel, owned by Andrew J. Wells, was destroyed by fire September 13, 1889. A hotel on this site, then conducted by a man named Hensinger, was burned in 1850. The latter was the original hotel erected on the site of the old Western hotel, and was a landmark in the first half of the century.

The Baker Gun and Forging Company, celebrated as the manufacturers of the Baker hammerless shot guns, is the successor to the Syracuse Forging and Gun Company, which removed its plant from Syracuse to Batavia in the spring of 1889. The enterprise was originally founded in Syracuse in 1886, but the company was reorganized and renamed upon the removal of the establishment to Batavia. Oddly enough, it began business by manufacturing an improved fifth wheel for wagons, finally adding the manufacture of the new Baker gun, the invention of W. H. Baker, for several years the general superintendent of the company. The market for this gun extends throughout every State in the Union, from five to six thousand being sold annually. Besides the Baker hammerless, popular grades include the Batavia hammerless, the Paragon hammerless and the Baker 1897 model, a hammer gun for nitro powder. The manufacturing plant includes a two-story main factory and foundry, in which about two hundred skilled workmen are employed. The company's officers are: President and treasurer, William T. Mylerane; vice-president, C. W. Hough; secretary, E. W. Atwater.

Hotel Richmond occupies a site that for just three-quarters of a century has been occupied by hotel buildings. On that lot the first of the famous old Eagle taverns stood. This was a spacious three-story brick structure built by Horace Gibbs for Bissell Humphrey and first opened to the public on February 1, 1823. It was destroyed by fire May 30, 1834. In this tavern Batavia Lodge No. 433, F. & A. M., held many of its meetings. The second Eagle tavern was erected by a stock company at an expense of about fifteen thousand dollars. Its doors were opened December 25, 1835, under the management of Erastus Smith. In 1869 Albert G. Collins, Andrew J. Andrews and James H. White purchased the Eagle hotel property, which was renamed Hotel Richmond by Mr. Collins; but numerous residents of Batavia protested over the name, believing that it had too strong political significance for those days, and Mr. Collins and his partners were prevailed upon to change the name, and the same was changed to that of St. James Hotel. Collins & Andrews were proprietors until 1884, when Mr. Collins purchased the interest of his partner. In the latter year the hotel was remodeled into an arcade with four stories. In that year Mr. Collins rented the property to Capt. Orrin C. Parker, who conducted it until January 8, 1886, when it was destroyed by fire. The present Hotel Richmond, which is said by many travelers to be one of the finest hostelries of its class in the country, was erected in 1889 by a stock concern known as the Batavia Hotel Company. June 22, 1889, the company, in which Mrs. Mary E. Richmond, widow of Dean Richmond, was a heavy stockholder, executed a ten-year mortgage for forty thousand dollars to her. In January, 1896, in default of payment of interest, an action of foreclosure was begun by the executors of the Richmond estate against the hotel company, and March 9, 1896, the property was purchased by the executors of that estate for \$43,649.82. The hotel has been under the management of Benjamin R. Wood since June, 1891.

The Batavia roller mills, on Evans street, were established in 1884 by N. D. Nobles, the present proprietor.

The Ellicott street roller mills were erected by Frank G. Moulton in 1889.

The Consumers' Electric Light and Power Company was organized and incorporated in 1889 with a capital of twenty-five thousand dollars and these officers: President, Henry Craft; secretary, C. H. Caldwell; treasurer, R. L. Kinsey. February 13, 1890, the plant of the Batavia

Gas Light Company was sold to those interested in the Consumers' Electric Light and Power Company. The two companies soon after were consolidated under the name of the Batavia Gas and Electric Company.

The Batavia and New York Wood Working Company was incorporated in July, 1892, soon after which it purchased the entire plant, business and good will of the New York Lumber and Wood Working Company, a concern which had been established about six years. The company's main building, exclusive of boiler and engine rooms, is sixty by three hundred feet, and three stories in height. The concern makes no stock article of any kind, working only to designs and on contract. The products comprise doors, sash, blinds, mouldings, interior hardwood finish for buildings, wainscoting, stairs, office partitions, bank interiors, and fine cabinet work of all kinds, made from architects' drawings and in special designs. Many of the finest commercial and office buildings, hotels, apartment houses and private residences in the great cities of the East have been supplied with interior woodwork by this establishment. It employs regularly about two hundred and fifty skilled workmen. The officers of the company are: President, J. N. Scatcherd; vice-president, C. H. Honeck; secretary and treasurer, A. D. Scatcherd.

The predecessor of the Batavia and New York Wood Working Company—the New York Lumber and Wood Working Company—sprang from the Batavia Manufacturing Company, incorporated in 1884 with a capital stock of two hundred thousand dollars. Soon after the firm was changed to the Batavia Sewing Machine Company, with a capital stock increased to three hundred thousand dollars, which contracted to manufacture the Post combination sewing machine. During the summer of 1884 the company erected the building now occupied by the wood working company, near the eastern boundary line of the village, at a cost of about forty thousand dollars. The plans of the company could not be carried out, by reason of financial difficulties, and in 1885 the building became the property of the New York Lumber and Wood Working Company, formerly the New York Wood Turning Company of New York city. The company, whose capital was one hundred thousand dollars, was composed of residents of New York city, with W. C. Andrews as president, and Charles H. Honeck as superintendent. In 1892 it sold its business to the Batavia and New York Wood Turning Company.

June 26, 1893, the taxpayers of Batavia decided by vote to authorize the trustees of the village to expend twenty-three thousand dollars for an electric light plant. The trustees at once acted upon the authority thus conferred upon them, and the electric light plant began operation July 13, 1894. The apparatus was furnished by the Fort Wayne (Ind.) Electric Company, at an expense of twelve thousand five hundred dollars, the contract for the same having been awarded January 25, 1894.

April 25, 1893, a number of the business men of Batavia held a meeting and organized the Batavia Board of Trade. The first officers, elected on that date, were: President, Charles W. Hough; first vice-president, Augustus N. Cowdin; second vice-president, Ashton W. Caney; corresponding secretary, Edward Russell; recording secretary, David D. Lent; treasurer, Joseph C. Barnes.

During the gubernatorial campaign in the fall of 1894 William McKinley, then governor of Ohio, stopped in Batavia about nine o'clock on the morning of October 26, and made a speech of eight minutes from a platform erected for the purpose in the park at the northeast corner of the Surrogate's office. The distinguished orator was greeted by a vast audience of early risers from all parts of the county. He was introduced by Judge North as the next president of the United States, a prediction destined to be fulfilled.

The Batavia Street Railroad Company was incorporated February 26, 1895, to operate an electric street railroad from Batavia to Horseshoe lake, a distance of seven and one half miles. The capital stock was fixed at seventy-five thousand dollars, and the company had these original directors: Amos H. Stephens, A. B. Wilgus, J. H. Wilgus, J. S. Lindsay, C. C. Marsh, New York; H. R. Burdick, Malden, Mass.; E. P. Wilgus, Mark Sugarman, Brooklyn; F. G. Fadner, Chicago. The road contemplated has never been constructed.

Among the other local organizations are the following: Lodge No. 197, I.O.O.F., was instituted in August, 1868, by H. S. Andrews, D. G.M., with five charter members: Weeden T. Bliss, William Hoyt, Simeon Lothiem, Thomas Yates and B. P. Fonda. Majestic Lodge No. 754, I.O.O.F., was instituted June 4, 1896, with Clayton W. Shedd as N.G. Richmond Encampment, No. 67, Patriarchs Militant, was instituted August 21, 1872. Security Lodge No. 21, A. O. U. W., was chartered April 20, 1876, with C. F. Starks as C.M. The Batavia Farmers' Club was organized in 1872 with P. P. Bradish as president,

J. G. Fargo as secretary and Henry Ives as treasurer. The Philharmonic Society was organized in 1883. Batavia Lodge No. 5, E. O. M. A., was instituted March 15, 1879, with thirty-three charter members. The Batavia Athletic Association was founded in 1887 with forty members and M. F. Cross as president. The Batavia Chess Club was organized in December, 1898, with Oliver A. Jones as president. The Batavia Business Men's Bowling Club was organized January 7, 1896, with D. W. Tomlinson as president, E. J. Mockford as vice-president, Dr. Burkhart as secretary, and Orrin C. Steele as treasurer. The Batavia Gun Club was organized April 9, 1896, with George Lewis as president and field captain, W. E. Baker as secretary, and H. M. Johnson as treasurer. Upton Camp, S. of V., was organized with twenty-seven members May 24, 1897, with H. H. Scott captain, George A. Gardner first lieutenant and George B. Thomas second lieutenant.

The shoe factory of P. W. Minor & Son was established in Batavia in 1896, and employs about one hundred hands. P. W. Minor already had been engaged in the manufacture of shoes for about forty years. The industry is a valuable addition to the industries of Batavia.

Smith Brothers' Shoe Company is the most recent addition to the manufacturing industries in Batavia. This company, composed of Louis E. Smith and Anthony C. Smith, was established in 1897. The factory is located on Railroad avenue, employs from ten to eighteen hands, and manufactures ladies', misses' and children's shoes exclusively.

In the spring of 1849 the town of Batavia, at its annual town meeting, appointed William Seaver, Samuel Heston and Seth Wakeman a committee to ascertain and report at the next town meeting the matter of procuring a suitable site for a town hall, specifying in such report the place, the size of the building proposed and the cost thereof with the requisite furnishings. About this time the grand jury of Genesee county adopted this resolution:

That it is advisable that the old court house should be either torn down or repaired, or that it should be disposed of in such manner as to insure its being kept in a decent state of repair.

The town committee mentioned in the foregoing decided that the old court house could be repaired and converted into a town hall, and therefore applied to the board of supervisors for its possession. November 7, 1849, the county legislature adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The old court house owned by the county of Genesee, situated in the

village of Batavia, is in a perishable and dilapidated condition, and of very little use to said county, and

WHEREAS, It is represented that the same can be repaired and converted to a useful purpose, therefore be it

Resolved by the board of supervisors of the county of Genesee that in conformity with an application presented to this board in behalf of the town of Batavia by a committee consisting of William Seaver, Samuel Heston and Seth Wakeman, the use and occupancy of said old court house, together with the ground upon which it stands, be granted to the said town of Batavia for the purpose of converting the said building into a town house so long as the said building shall stand and be used for the purpose aforesaid, upon condition that the said building shall be thoroughly repaired, fitted up and appropriated to the uses and purposes set forth in the said application, to which this resolution is annexed.

Resolved, further, in case the said building shall be so repaired, fitted up and appropriated by the town of Batavia and kept in good repair, that for the purpose of securing to the building of proper care and protection, and that it may be under the control and management of some legal authority, it shall be and remain in charge of such public officer or officers as the electors of the town of Batavia may at their annual town meeting by resolution designate which officer or officers shall have the exclusive power to grant permission for its use and occupancy, except that it shall always be free for holding of town meetings and election meetings of the Genesee County Agricultural Society, and meetings for educational purposes, and except that the board of supervisors may at any meeting of said board have the use of said building or such part thereof as may be desired, and further if at any time the said building shall be needed for the purpose of holding any of the Supreme, Circuit and County Courts therein, then that it may be used for such purposes.

Resolved, That the foregoing application, preamble and resolution, be entered in the minutes and proceedings of this board.

The town committee reported at the next ensuing town meeting recommending the acceptance of the proposition of the board of supervisors, and the town of Batavia, by resolution, accepted the report and offer on the part of the county authorities. Thus the old court house, the oldest building now standing west of the Genesee river, became the property of the town of Batavia, with certain conditions and limitations attached to the proprietorship.

Instead of repairing the building, the town board of Batavia, at that time consisting of John B. Pike, supervisor; Isaac M. Joslyn, town clerk; Augustus Cowdin, Nathaniel Read, M. W. Hewitt and Richard Smith, justices of the peace, entered into a contract with Levi Otis, Benjamin Pringle, Rufus Robertson and William L. Mallory, whereby the building became the property of these men, they agreeing to make these repairs: Raising the building from its foundation, fitting up the basement for the use and occupancy of the Batavia Village Fire Depart-

ment; fitting up the first story into offices; converting the second and third stories into one story and one large room, for use as a town hall; erecting stairways in each of the two semi-octagons, thereby making it conveniently accessible; providing a new roof, new flooring, new windows and doors, plastering, painting and papering—in short making all the alterations and repairs essential to a first class public building. The town agreed to pay these four men for such work the sum of one thousand dollars, the latter to be entitled to all the rents and profits thereof. The town board reserved the use of the building, subject to the rights of the county therein, as contemplated by the resolution of the board of supervisors giving the structure to the town.

The building was accordingly repaired and named Ellicott hall, in memory of Joseph Ellicott, its founder, and used as a town hall up to 1888.

Since the transfer of the building to private ownership the title has undergone several changes. In 1853 William L. Mallory sold his one-fourth interest therein to the remaining three partners. In 1868 the interest of Rufus Robertson was sold to Horace M. Warren. In the same year the one-third interest of Benjamin Pringle was sold to Mr. Warren and Levi Otis, leaving the title to the property in the hands of the two latter men. In 1870 the board of supervisors deeded to Messrs. Otis and Warren a strip of land sixty-six feet to the north of the building towards Main street and the full width of the building, for the purpose of enlarging it and converting it into an opera house; but the repairs were never made. In 1871 Levi Otis sold his half interest in the property to H. M. Warren, who thereby became sole owner. After Mr. Warren's death it became the property of his two daughters, Mrs. F. M. Jameson and Mrs. W. W. Whitcomb. In 1893 Mrs. Whitcomb sold her half interest to Mrs. Jameson.

In the winter of 1897-98 the town board conceived the idea of again purchasing the property, the main thought being to preserve it as a historic relic. The board therefore appointed John Thomas, supervisor of Batavia, a committee to consult Mrs. Jameson for the purpose of ascertaining if it could be purchased, and if so, at what price. The terms proposed being considered satisfactory, the town board prepared a resolution directing the purchase, which it submitted to the voters of the town at the annual town election in the spring of 1898. The resolution was adopted by a large majority and the purchase was consummated. Soon after, the work of repairing the structure was begun, the original

colonial style being preserved. The building to-day is considered the staunchest in Genesee county. While the repairs were in progress Upton Post No. 299, Grand Army of the Republic, made application to the town board for the fitting up of one of the rooms in the building for their occupancy; and the laws of the State permitting this to be done, the application was granted by a unanimous vote, and the Grand Army post and the local camp of the Sons of Veterans, raised the Stars and Stripes over the building, the first flag being donated by Gen. George W. Stanley, a member of Upton Post, G. A. R.

The dedication of this historic building took place on the evening of Wednesday, October 26, 1898, Harry Burrows acting as master of ceremonies. The Rev. A. M. Sherman opened the ceremonies with a brief prayer. This was followed by the singing of "The Star Spangled Banner" by the Alert quartette, composed of the Messrs. Telfair, C. W. Hutchinson and Frank C. Fix, with Miss Stanley as accompanist. John Thomas, supervisor of the town of Batavia, read an interesting historical record of Ellicott Hall, prepared by him for the occasion.¹ W. L. Colville, on behalf of Upton Post, thanked the town for giving the post new quarters in the building. He was followed by the Hon. Safford E. North, judge of Genesee county, who delivered the dedicatory address. The singing of "America" by the Alert quartette and the benediction by the Rev. A. M. Sherman concluded the exercises.

In the course of his address Judge North spoke as follows:

Ninety-six years ago, the thrift and energy of the men, who, with their strong arms and bright axes, blazed a way through the primeval forests, led them to erect here, at this junction of two Indian trails, the building which, after the lapse of so many eventful years, we are rededicating to-night. With what ceremonies it may have been dedicated almost a century ago, or whether without ceremony, we know not. Of all those whose hands wrought this substantial structure—whose ponderous oaken timbers have withstood wind and rain these many years—not one is left to tell the story. It may well be guessed, although we do not know for certain, that not one even of the children of those who built so well yet survives to read in to-morrow's paper the story of how, after all the chances and changes of the eventful years which lie between us and the time when this structure was erected, it was reserved for those who bear the honored title of Sons of Veterans once more to dedicate this structure, grown classic with historical associations.

It was only a year ago that the matter was under serious consideration whether this building, grown somewhat unsightly from lack of repair, should not be demolished. But a few men of sound judgment—and foremost among these, I was glad

¹ Many of the facts contained in the above history of this time honored building were gleaned from the address of Mr. Thomas.

to note, was Supervisor John Thomas—said that it was too bad to tear down a structure surrounded by so many time-honored memories, and which had been the first court house not only for Genesee county, but for all of what are now Erie, Wyoming, Niagara, Orleans, Chautauqua, Cattaraugus and Allegany, as well as a part of the present counties of Livingston and Monroe.

And so it came about that the proposition was submitted to the voters of Batavia at the town meeting in March of this year (1895), and thanks to the good sense of our people, old Ellicott Hall with its interesting history and with its ninety-six years was elected, not to be torn down, but to receive a fresh coat of paint, to be strengthened, renovated and repaired and to remain the common property of us all, to become the heritage of our children and our children's children. . . .

THE CHURCHES OF BATAVIA.

In preceding pages of this chapter the details of the organization of the older churches in Batavia appear in chronological order. Following will be found concise historical sketches of the churches from the date of their organization to the present time.

The First Presbyterian church of Batavia is the outgrowth of a Congregational society organized September 19, 1809, by the Rev. Royal Phelps, who had been sent to the Genesee country by the Hampshire Missionary Society of Massachusetts. Those who signed the membership roll upon the institution of the church were Silas Chapin, David Anderson, Ezekiel Fox, Solomon Kingsley, Mrs. Solomon Kingsley, Patience Kingsley, Eleanor Smith, Elizabeth Mathers, Mrs. Esther Kellogg, Elizabeth Peck, Huldah Wright and Mrs. Polly Branard. The ancient records show that during the same month in which the society was organized a sacramental service was held in Jesse Rumsey's barn. In June, 1810, the Rev. Reuben Parmelee preached in Abel Wheeler's barn. Meetings were held after this at Phelps's inn, the Phelps school house, at Clark's settlement, and at the residences of Samuel Ranger and Ezekiel Fox. In 1813 regular services were inaugurated in the court house, now Ellicott hall, and continued there until 1824, when the first house of worship on Main street, opposite the court house, was erected. This was a frame building and cost about three thousand five hundred dollars. This was occupied by the society until 1856, when a handsome stone structure was erected on East Main street, corner of Liberty street. Sunday school rooms were added to this church in 1882, a new gallery was built in 1888, and in 1889 the interior of the church was renovated and redecored, completely rejuvenating it.

Up to October 2, 1818, when the church connected itself with the presbytery, the society was served by the Rev. Reuben Parmelee, the Rev. John Spencer, the Rev. John Alexander, and the Rev. Messrs. Ayres, Bliss, Swift, Hanning, Sweezy, Squires, Colton, Duvel, and Ephraim Chapin. In 1822 the church was incorporated under its present name. Since 1818 the church has had the following regular pastors.

1818-22, Rev. Ephraim Chapin; 1823-26, Rev. Calvin Colton; 1827-28, Rev. Charles Whitehead; 1829-31, Rev. Russell Whiting; 1837-39, Rev. Erastus J. Gillett; 1839-43, Rev. William H. Beecher; 1843-51, Rev. Byron Sunderland; 1852-55, Rev. William Lusk; 1855-58, Rev. Isaac O. Fillmore; 1861-69, Rev. Charles F. Mussey; 1871-74, Rev. Chester W. Hawley; 1875-77, Rev. Thomas B. McLeod; 1878-87, Rev. William Swan; 1887-91, Rev. Allan D. Draper; Rev. William J. McKittrick, 1891-94; Rev. Henry R. Fancher, March 4, 1895, to date.

The details of the organization of the First Methodist Episcopal church of Batavia, December 15, 1819, appear in earlier pages in this chapter. The society was then a member of the "New Amsterdam Circuit and Genesee District," and for some time services had been held either in the court house or a frame school house located a short distance west of the old land office on West Main street. In 1820 and 1821 the Rev. James Hall and the Rev. Zachariah Paddock were in charge of the circuit. James Gilmore and Jasper Bennett served in 1821-1822, and John Arnold and Asa Orcutt in 1822-1823. May 16, 1823, the work of raising money for a church edifice, by subscription, was begun. June 23 following the trustees of the society contracted with Thomas McCulley, Joseph Shaw and Seymour Ensign to build a stone church forty by forty-five feet in dimensions. This church, which cost about two thousand eight hundred dollars, was dedicated June 13, 1824. It stood on the corner of Main and Lyon streets. In 1839 this building was sold to the First Freewill Baptist church of Batavia. Then for about two years the M. E. congregation worshipped in the Nixon building, subsequently a district school house, located east of St. James's church. A new house of worship on the east side of Jackson street, known as St. John's church, was erected in 1841 and dedicated December 3 of that year. This was sold to William M. Terry in 1866, and burned July 15, 1888. After leaving the Jackson street church the congregation worshipped about a year in Concert hall, corner of Main and State streets. In 1868 a new brick house of worship, costing twenty

thousand dollars, was erected on West Main street, during the pastorate of the Rev. Sandford Hunt, D. D. The corner stone was laid June 30, 1868, by the Rev. E. E. Chambers, then presiding elder, and the building was dedicated September 14, 1869. Those who have served the society as pastor, in addition to the early circuit preachers mentioned, are:

1822-1841, Revs. John Arnold, Asa Orcutt, John Beggary, Andrew Prindel, J. B. Roach, Benajah Williams, Jonathan Heustis, Asa Abell, John Cosart, Ira Bronson, Micah Seager, Glenzen Fillmore, Chester V. Adgate, S. W. D. Chase, Levi B. Castle, John H. Wallace, Gideon Lanning, Richard L. Waite, John B. Alverson, William Fowler, G. B. Benedict, Daniel M. Murphy, Wesley Cochran, Darius Williams, D. Nutter; 1841-1870, Allen Steele, Philo E. Brown, Joseph Cross, John Parker, William R. Babcock, Daniel C. Houghton, Philo Woodworth, J. K. Cheeseman, William M. Ferguson, Charles Shelling, E. Everett Chambers, James M. Fuller, John B. Wentworth, De Forest Parsons, King David Nettleton, Joseph H. Knowles, George G. Lyon, Schuyler Seager, Charles R. Pomeroy, Sandford Hunt; 1870-1871, Sandford Hunt, D. D.; 1871-1873, R. C. Brownlee; 1873-1876, James E. Bills; 1876-1878, A. D. Wilbor; 1878-1881, T. H. Youngman; 1881-1882, O. S. Chamberlain; 1882-1885, John W. Sanborn; 1885-1888, C. W. Winchester; 1888-1891, S. W. Lloyd; Jan. 1, 1892, to Oct. 1, 1892, C. W. Cushing, D. D. (appointed as supply to fill unexpired year of S. W. Lloyd, who resigned Jan. 1, 1892, on account of illness); 1892-1893, A. F. Colburn, 1893-1898, Thomas Cardus; 1898, A. F. Colburn.

The early history of St. James's Protestant Episcopal church has been given in detail in earlier pages in this chapter. The first house of worship, a brick structure, was consecrated by Bishop Hobart September 22, 1826. The second church, which is still in use, was erected, of stone, in 1835 and 1836, and during these years the main part of the old rectory was also built. David E. Evans, then agent for the Holland Land Company, donated the lot on which the church stands, besides presenting to the society a chandelier and the sum of fifteen hundred dollars. Trinity church of New York also gave one thousand dollars toward defraying the building expenses.

The Revs. Samuel Johnston and Lewis S. Ives conducted services from the organization of the parish until 1823. Since that year the rectors of St. James have been as follows:

Rev. Lucius Smith, 1823-33; Rev. James A. Bolles, D.D., 1833-54; Rev. Thomas A. Tyler, D.D., 1854-62; Rev. Morelle Fowler, 1863-68; Rt. Rev. C. F. Robertson, bishop of Missouri, a few months during 1868; Rev. George F. Plummer, 1868-75; Rev. George S. Baker, 1875-77; Rev. H. L. Everest, 1878-82; Rev. William A. Hitchcock, D.D., 1883-87; Rev. A. M. Sherman, 1887-98.

The First Baptist church of Batavia was organized under the State

laws at the court house November 9, 1835, as the "Baptist Society of Batavia Village." On that occasion Richard Coville, jr, John Dorman, William Blossom, William D. Popple and Calvin Foster were elected trustees. March 17, 1836, a lot on the west side of Jackson street was purchased of William D. Popple for \$400 and work upon a house of worship was begun soon after. About 1865 the church was remodeled at a cost of ten thousand dollars. In 1877 the society was reorganized and incorporated under its present name. December 3, 1833, the board of trustees decided to purchase a site for a new edifice. A week later they purchased of Mrs. Mary L. Douglass, for four thousand five hundred dollars, the lot on East Main street on which the present handsome church stands. The corner stone of the new structure was laid June 17, 1890, by the Rev. Cyrus A. Johnson, then pastor of the society. The completed edifice, which cost about forty thousand dollars aside from the organ, which cost about five thousand dollars, was dedicated October 22, 1891, the dedicatory sermon being preached by the Rev. J. A. W. Stewart, D.D., of Rochester. During the dedicatory services the sum of seven thousand dollars was contributed to liquidate the indebtedness incurred by the society in constructing its new home. The pastors of this church, with the date of the commencement of their work, have been:

1834, Ichabod Clark; 1837, William W. Smith; 1840, L. A. Esta; 1844, Gibbon Williams; 1845, S. M. Stimpson; 1852, D. Harrington; 1855, J. B. Vrooman; 1859, L. J. Huntley; 1861, S. M. Stimpson; 1865, O. E. Mallory; 1875, D. D. Brown; 1877, William C. Leonard; 1882, Cyrus A. Johnson; 1898, John H. Mason.

Though the Catholic congregation in Batavia was not placed under the care of a regular pastor until 1849, services had then been held in the village for several years. As early as 1840 the Rev. Father Gannon began to make visits to the few Catholic families then residing here, and conducted services as frequently as his duties elsewhere permitted. At that time there probably were not more than a dozen or fifteen adherents of the Catholic faith in Batavia and its immediate vicinity. Father Gannon continued his ministrations for a period of about three years. Then, from 1843 to 1847, the Rev. Bernard O'Reilly, subsequently bishop of Hartford, Conn., and his brother, the Rev. William O'Reilly, both of whom were stationed at Rochester during those years, conducted services here alternately. Sometimes the small but increasing congregation would gather for worship at the home of Edward O'Connor, and sometimes at the residence of James

Ronan. About 1845 the numerical increase of the congregation had become such that private residences were too small to accommodate them. Learning of this condition of affairs, Messrs. Otis and Worthington tendered the society, free of charge, the use of a large room on the second floor of the building occupied by Gad B. Worthington as a hardware store.

In 1848 the Rev. Thomas McEvoy was appointed to succeed the Rev. Fathers O'Reilly in charge of the congregation, which a short time before had been established as a mission. He served in this capacity until April 4, 1849, when, an independent congregation having been formed, the Rev. Edward Dillon was appointed resident priest by the Rt. Rev. John Timon, the first bishop of the newly organized diocese of Buffalo. On the following Sunday, April 8—Easter Sunday—the new priest conducted services for a congregation of about seventy-five Catholics in the old brick school house located on the corner of Main and Eagle streets. Prior to this time the subject of a house of worship had been discussed by members of the steadily increasing congregation, and now, upon the permanent location of a resident pastor, the members of the society went to work to build up a fund to pay for the erection of a church. About a month after Father Dillon had been installed as pastor, Bishop Timon visited Batavia and lectured in a hall near the Eagle Tavern (now Hotel Richmond). Interest in the project for a church edifice was at once greatly enhanced, and within a few days the congregation purchased of Benjamin Pringle, for twelve hundred dollars, a two-story stone dwelling on Jackson street, which had been erected for a private school. After the necessary alterations thereto had been made, regular services therein were inaugurated and continued there for several years. Upon the completion of the new church this building was used for St. Joseph's parochial school.

Father Dillon resigned his pastorate in November, 1850, and was succeeded by the Rev. Thomas Fitzgerald. The latter was succeeded September 5, 1852, by the Rev. Francis O'Farrell. December 10, 1855, the latter was appointed vicar-general of the diocese of Buffalo, and rector of St. Joseph's cathedral in the city of Buffalo. The Rev. Peter Brown was appointed to succeed him. The latter resigned September 28, 1856. The Rev. James McGlew, who followed him, was succeeded December 10, 1860, by the Rev. Thomas Cunningham, with the Rev. John Castaldi as his assistant. September 15, 1862, Father

Cunningham purchased the lot on the northeast corner of East Main and Summit streets, from Lawrence Timmons, for two thousand five hundred dollars, and soon after began the erection thereon of the present handsome and commodious church, which was dedicated to the worship of God in 1864. This edifice, built of brick, cost about forty-five thousand dollars. A convent was also erected on Jackson street in 1862.

Father Cunningham served as pastor of St. Joseph's for nearly thirteen years, being succeeded by the Rev. P. A. Maloy August 23, 1873. After serving exactly one year Father Maloy retired, and was followed by the Rev. Martin McDonnell. At the time of the latter's resignation in April, 1880, his charge numbered about two thousand two hundred persons, and a mission had been established at Attica. In January, 1882, the Rev. James McManus became priest in charge of the congregation. His continued illness prevented him from the performance of his duties, and the Rev. Father Walsh, his assistant, conducted services and performed the other pastoral work. Father McManus died in Batavia, at the age of forty years. In February, 1882, the Rev. T. B. Brougham was appointed to take charge of the congregation, and still serves as pastor. During his first year in Batavia the old convent on Jackson street was sold and the present convent and parochial school on Summit street, north of and adjoining the church, were erected. The Convent of Mercy, a brick structure, is a convent for novices, who go there from all parts of this diocese. During the pastorate of Father Brougham the parish of St. Joseph's has experienced great prosperity, both spiritual and temporal, and is recognized to-day as one of the strongest Catholic parishes in the diocese. Not only have the new convent and school been erected during his pastorate, but he acquired a large lot east of the church, as a site for a pastoral residence, erected in 1892. The church has also been renovated and repaired, making it one of the handsomest structures in the State.

The Evangelical Association of Batavia was organized in 1862 by M. Pfitzinger and Adolph Miller. The Rev. Jacob Seigrist was the first pastor of the society. In the same year the first house of worship, a frame structure, was erected. The present church edifice, of brick, was constructed in 1871 at a cost of six thousand dollars. It is located on Centre street. The society is small numerically.

St. Paul's German United Evangelical church was founded April 20, 1873, by the organization of a society with these officers: President,

John Friedley; treasurer, Martin Wolfley; secretary, Louis Uebele. The Rev. George Field was the first pastor, and the first house of worship was located on Ellicott street. A new church, located on Liberty street, was erected in 1898, the dedication taking place during the pastorate of the Rev. E. F. Holls December 4 of that year.

The First Freewill Baptist church of Batavia was organized with about twenty-five members January 17, 1886. September 28, 1884, the Rev. J. H. Durkee opened a meeting in Odd Fellows hall, which was attended by several adherents of this denomination. The meetings thus inaugurated were continued in Odd Fellows hall and in Lorish's hall until the organization of the society. The members of the organization council were the Revs J. H. Durkee, L. P. Bickford, J. C. Steele, D. M. L. Rollin, and R. E. Nesbit. The church edifice on Bank street, a commodious frame building, was completed early in the summer of 1887, and dedicated June 21 of that year. Its cost was about ten thousand dollars. Mr. Durkee remained as pastor until 1898, when he resigned. The society is now without a pastor.

A chapel on Ellicott street in Batavia was opened by the newly formed Free Methodist society March 2, 1893. The first pastor of the society, who conducted services on that occasion, was the Rev. M. T. Marriott.

CHAPTER XVII.

BENCH AND BAR OF GENESEE COUNTY.

While the judicial system of the State of New York is to a large extent founded upon the common law of England, there are important differences which are revealed by a study of the laws of our country, showing that the American system, in many respects, is an original growth. In the simple, yet initiative manner of entitling a criminal process, for example, there is a radical difference between the American method and that which must be followed in England. Here it is "the People versus the criminal," while in England it is "Rex versus the criminal." In the one it is a judiciary directly responsible to the people; in the other it is a judiciary responsible to a monarch. This principle of the sovereignty of the people over the laws, as well as their dominance in other governmental matters, has had a slow, conservative, yet steadily progressive and systematic growth.

In the colonial history of this State the Governor was in effect the maker, interpreter and enforcer of the laws. He was the chief judge in the court of final resort, while his councillors generally were his obedient followers. The execution of the English and colonial statutes rested with him, as did also the exercise of royal authority in the province. It was not until the Revolution that he ceased to contend for these prerogatives and to act as though the only functions of the court and councillors were to do his bidding as servants and helpers, while the Legislature should adopt only such laws as the executive should suggest or approve.

By the first constitution the Governor was deprived of the judicial power which he possessed under colonial rule, and such power was vested in the Lieutenant-Governor and the State Senate, the chancellor and the justices of the Supreme Court; the former to be elected by the people, and the latter to be appointed by the Council. Under this constitution there was the first radical separation of the judicial and the legislative powers, and the advancement of the judiciary to the position of a co-ordinate department of the government, subject to the limitation

consequent upon the appointment of its members by the Council. This court, called the "Court for the Trial of Impeachments and Correction of Errors," was continued by the second constitution, which was adopted in 1821.

It was not until the adoption of the constitution of 1846 that the last connection between the purely political and the judicial parts of the State government was abolished. From this time on the judiciary became more directly representative of the people by reason of the election by them of its members. The development of the idea of the responsibility of the courts to the people, from the time when all of the members were at the beck and nod of one well nigh irresponsible master, to the time when all judges, even of the court of last resort, are voted for by the people, has been very great. Through all this change there has prevailed the idea of having one ultimate tribunal from whose decisions there can be no appeal.

Noting briefly the present arrangement and powers of the courts of this State and the elements from which they have grown, it is seen that the plan is, first, a trial before a judge and jury—arbiters of law and fact respectively; second, a review by a higher tribunal of the facts and the law; third, a review of the law alone by a court of last resort. To accomplish these purposes there was devised and established, first and highest, our present Court of Appeals, perfected by the conventions of 1867, 1868 and 1894, and ratified by vote of the people in 1869 and 1894, and taking the place of the ancient "Court for the Trial of Impeachments and Correction of Errors" to the extent of correcting errors of law.

As originally organized under the constitution of 1846, the Court of Appeals was composed of eight judges, four of whom were elected by the people and the remainder taken from the justices of the Supreme Court having the shortest remaining time to serve. As organized in 1870, the court consisted of the chief judge and six associate judges, to hold office for a term of fourteen years from and including the first day of January succeeding their election. The court exists to-day as then organized. It is continually in session in the capitol at Albany, with an annual June session in the Town Hall at Saratoga Springs, except as it takes recess from time to time on its own motion. It has full power to correct or reverse the decisions of all inferior courts, when properly brought before it for review. Its decisions are final and absolute. Five judges constitute a quorum, and four must concur to ren-

der judgment. If four do not agree, the case must be reargued; but no more than two rehearings can be had, and if four judges do not then concur, the judgment of the court below stands affirmed.

The State Legislature has provided by statute what, how and when proceedings and decisions of inferior tribunals may be reviewed in the Court of Appeals, and may, in its discretion, alter and amend the same. Upon the reorganization of this court in 1869 its work was far in arrears, and a Commission of Appeals to aid the Court of Appeals was provided for by the constitutional amendment adopted that year. In 1888 the Legislature adopted a concurrent resolution that Section 6 of Article 6 of the constitution be so amended that upon the certificate of the Court of Appeals to the governor of such an accumulation of causes on the calendar of the Court of Appeals that the public interest required a more speedy disposition thereof, the governor might designate seven justices of the Supreme Court to act as associate justices of the Court of Appeals for the time being, these constituting a second division of that court, to be dissolved by the governor when the necessity for their services ceased to exist. This amendment was ratified at the succeeding State election, and in accordance therewith the governor selected the seven Supreme Court justices, the new division was organized, and began its labors March 5, 1889. Its work having become completed this division was dissolved in October, 1892.

Second in rank to the Court of Appeals stands the Supreme Court, which is constituted of several different elements. This court was originally created by act of the Colonial Legislature May 6, 1691, and finally was fully established by ordinance of the Governor and Council May 15, 1699. It at first was empowered to try all issues to the same extent as the English Courts of King's Bench, Common Pleas and Exchequer, except that it did not have equity powers. It had jurisdiction in actions involving the sum of one hundred dollars or more, and could revise and correct decisions of inferior courts. An appeal from its decisions could be taken to the Governor and Council. There originally were five judges, who made annual circuits of the counties, under a commission naming them, issued by the governor, and giving them *visi prius*, oyer and terminer and jail delivery powers. Under the first constitution this court was reorganized, the judges being then named by the Council of Appointment. All proceedings were directed to be entitled in the name of the people, instead of in the name of the king.

The constitution of 1821 made numerous and important changes in the character and methods of this court. The number of the judges was reduced to three, who were to be appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate, to hold office during good behavior or until having attained the age of sixty years. They were removable by the Legislature when a majority of the Senate and two-thirds of the Assembly so voted. Four times every year this court sat in review of their decisions upon questions of law.

By the constitution of 1846 the Supreme Court as it then existed was abolished and a new court of the same name, having general jurisdiction in law and equity, was established. This court was divided into General Terms, Circuits, Special Terms, and Courts of Oyer and Terminer. It was composed of thirty-three justices, to be elected by the people. The State was divided into eight judicial districts. In the first of these five of the judges were to reside, while each of the other seven districts furnished four judges. By the judiciary act of 1847, General Terms were to be held once in each year in counties possessing more than 40,000 inhabitants each, and in other counties as often as once in two years. At least two Special Terms and two Circuit Courts were to be held annually in every county excepting Hamilton, the population of which was, and still is, inconsiderable. The court was also authorized by this act to name the time and place of holding its terms and those of Oyer and Terminer. The latter was to be held by a justice of the Supreme Court and two justices of sessions. From 1882 to to the adoption of the constitution of 1894 the Courts of Oyer and Terminer were held by a single justice of the Supreme Court.

One of the old courts, the powers of which have been vested in the Supreme Court, was the Court of Chancery. This court was a relic of the old colonial period. It had its origin in the Court of Assizes, the latter being invested with equity powers under the duke's laws. The court was established in 1683. The Governor, or such person as he should designate, was chancellor, assisted by the Council. In 1698 this court ceased to exist by limitation; but it was revived in 1701, again suspended in 1703, and re-established the following year. At first this court was unpopular in the Province of New York, the Assembly and the colonists opposing it with the argument that the crown had no authority to establish an equity court in the colony, and they were doubtful of the propriety of constituting the Governor and Council such a court. Under the constitution of 1777 the court was recognized as

still in existence, but its chancellor was prohibited from holding any other office except delegate to Congress on special occasions. In 1778 the court was reorganized. Masters and examiners in chancery were to be appointed by the Council of Appointment; registers and clerks by the chancellor. The latter licensed all solicitors and counselors who practiced before the court. Under the constitution of 1821 the chancellor was appointed by the Governor, and held office during good behavior, or until he had attained the age of sixty years. Appeals lay from the chancellor to the Court for the Correction of Errors. Under the second constitution equity powers were vested in the circuit judges, whose decisions were permitted to be reviewed on appeal to the chancellor. Soon after this general equity jurisdiction devolved upon the chancellor, while the judges alluded to acted as vice-chancellors in their respective circuits. The constitution of 1846 abolished the Court of Chancery, and its powers, duties and jurisdiction were vested in the Supreme Court.

By an act of the Legislature adopted in 1848, entitled "The Code of Procedure," all distinctions between actions at law and suits in equity were abolished, so far as the manner of commencing and conducting them was concerned, and a uniform method of practice was adopted. Under this act appeals lay to the General Term of the Supreme Court from judgments rendered in Mayor's, Recorder's and County Courts, and from all orders and judgments of a court held by a single justice of the Supreme Court.

The judiciary article of the constitution of 1846 was amended in 1869, authorizing the Legislature, not oftener than once every five years, to provide for the organization of General Terms consisting of a presiding justice and not more than three associates; but by an act passed in 1870 the existing organization of the General Term was abrogated and the State divided into four departments, and provision was made for holding General Terms in each. By the same act the Governor was directed to designate from among the justices of the Supreme Court a presiding justice and two associates to constitute a General Term in each department. By the constitutional amendment of 1882, the following year the Legislature divided the State into five judicial departments and provided for the election of twelve additional justices, to hold office from the first Monday in June, 1884.

In June, 1887, the Legislature enacted the Code of Civil Procedure to take the place of the code of 1848. By this many minor changes

were made, among them being a provision that every two years the justices of the General Terms and the chief judges of the Superior City Courts should meet and revise and establish general rules of practice for all the courts of record in the State, excepting the Court of Appeals.

Previous to the constitution of 1821, modified in 1826, justices of the peace were appointed. Since that date they have been elected. The office and its duties are descended from the English office of the same name, but are much less important in this country than in England. Under the laws of this State they are purely the creature of the statute. Next in authority to the Supreme Court is the County Court, held in and for each county in the State, except New York county, at such times and places as its judges may designate. This court had its origin in the old English Court of Sessions and, like that court, originally had criminal jurisdiction only. By an act passed in 1663, a Court of Sessions, having power to try both civil and criminal causes by jury, was directed to be held by three justices of the peace in each of the counties of the province, twice every year, with one additional term in Albany and two in New York. By the act of 1691 and the decree of 1699, all civil jurisdiction was taken from this court and conferred upon the Court of Common Pleas. By the radical changes of the constitution of 1846, provision was made for a County Court in every county in the State, to be held by an officer to be designated as the county judge, and to have such jurisdiction as the Legislature might prescribe. Under the authority of that constitution the County Courts from time to time have been given jurisdiction in various classes of actions which need not be enumerated here, and also have been invested with certain equity powers in the foreclosure of mortgages, the sale of infants' real estate, the partitioning of lands, in the admeasurement of dower and care of persons and estates of lunatics and habitual drunkards. The judiciary act of 1869 continued the then existing jurisdiction of the County Courts, and conferred upon them original jurisdiction in all actions in which the defendants lived within the county, and where the damages claimed did not exceed one thousand dollars. This sum was afterward changed to two thousand dollars.

Like the Supreme Court, the County Court now has its civil and its criminal sides. Until the adoption of the constitution of 1894, in criminal matters the county judge was assisted by two justices of sessions, elected by the people from among the justices of the peace in

the county. It was in the criminal branch of this court, known as the Court of Sessions, that all minor criminal offenses were disposed of. All indictments from the grand jury, excepting for murder or some very serious felony, might be sent to it for trial from the Oyer and Terminer. By the codes of 1848 and 1877, the methods of procedure and practice were made to conform as nearly as possible to the practice in the Supreme Court. This was done with the evident design of attracting litigation into these courts, thereby relieving the Supreme Court in a measure. In this purpose comparative failure resulted, however, litigants generally preferring the shield and the assistance of the broader powers of the higher court. Under the codes the judges can perform some of the duties of a justice of the Supreme Court at Chambers. The County Court has appellate jurisdiction over actions arising in Justices' Courts and, until their abolishment, Courts of Special Sessions. Appeals lay from the County Courts to the General Term until the adoption of the constitution of 1894, since which appeals are taken to the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court. County judges were appointed until 1847, since which time they have been elected. By the constitution of 1894, which abolished Courts of Sessions except in the city of New York, the jurisdiction of the latter courts was transferred to the County Courts.

Surrogates' Courts exist in each of the counties of the State, and are now courts of record having a seal. Their special jurisdiction is the settlement and care of estates of persons who have died either with or without a will, and of infants. The derivation of the powers and practice of the Surrogate's Court in this State is from the Ecclesiastical Court of England through a part of the Colonial Council, which existed during the Dutch dominion in New Netherland. Its authority was exercised in accordance with the Dutch Roman law, the custom of Amsterdam and the law of Aasdom, the Court of Burgomasters and Schepens, the Court of Orphan Masters, the Mayor's Court, the Prerogative Court and the Court of Probates. The settlement of estates and the guardianship of orphans, which was at first vested in the director-general and Council of New Netherland, was transferred to the Burgomasters in 1653, and soon after to the Orphan Masters. Under colonial rule the Prerogative Court controlled all matters in relation to the probate of wills and settlement of estates. This power continued until 1692, when by act of Legislature all probates and granting of letters of administration were placed under the hand of the governor or

his delegate; and two freeholders were appointed in each town to take charge of the estates of persons dying without a will. Under the duke's laws this duty had been performed by the constables, overseers and justices of each town. In 1778 the governor was divested of all this power except the appointment of surrogates, and it was conferred upon the Court of Probates. Under the first constitution surrogates were named by the Council of Appointment, and under the second constitution by the governor, with the approval of the Senate. The constitution of 1846 abrogated the office of surrogate in all counties having less than forty thousand population, and conferred its powers and duties upon the county judge. By the Code of Civil Procedure surrogates were invested with all the powers necessary to carry out the equitable and incidental requirements of the office. The constitution also gave the Legislature authority for the election of special surrogates, who discharge the duties of surrogate in case of inability, or of vacancies, and exercise such other powers in special cases as provided by law.

The constitution of 1894 made numerous changes in the character of the courts of New York State, some of which have been referred to in the preceding pages. It abolished the General Term, Circuit Courts, Courts of Oyer and Terminer, the Superior Courts of the city of New York and of Buffalo, the Court of Common Pleas for the city and county of New York, the City Court of Brooklyn, vesting their jurisdiction in the Supreme Court. Courts of Sessions, except in the city of New York, were also abolished. It also provided for the establishment of an Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, to stand second to the Court of Appeals only. It directed the Legislature to divide the State into four judicial departments, and defined the Appellate Division as consisting of seven justices of the Supreme Court in the first department (the county of New York), and of five justices in each of the other departments. The power of appointment to this court is vested in the governor. To the Appellate Division was transferred the jurisdiction exercised previously by the Supreme Court at its General Term, by the General Terms of the Court of Common Pleas for the city and county of New York, the Superior Court of the city of New York, the Superior Court of Buffalo and the City Court of Brooklyn, and such additional jurisdiction as may be conferred by the Legislature.

Under the act of February 12, 1796, this State was divided into seven districts, over which an assistant attorney-general was appointed by the Governor and Council of Appointment, to serve during pleas-

ure. The office of district attorney was created April 4, 1801, the State being divided into seven districts as before, but subsequently several new districts were formed. By a law passed in April, 1818, each county was constituted a separate district for the purpose of this office. During the period of the second constitution district attorneys were appointed by the Court of General Sessions in each county. Since then they have been elected by the people.

The editor of this work has been requested by the publishers to prepare a sketch of the lives of the men who in the past have been representative members of the legal profession in Genesee county. The scope of this article does not include any lawyer now living. It is only of those whose earthly labors are ended that we are to speak. Within the limit of space assigned it will be impossible to give more than an outline of the lives of these men, many of whom have been among the foremost citizens of Genesee county. It is not claimed that mention is made of every lawyer who has practiced here, neither does this sketch include those who have pursued their studies or practiced in this county for a short time, but who have made their reputations elsewhere. In any community the members of the bar are always in a large sense public men. Many important judicial positions are necessarily filled from their ranks, while legislative and other official places are often occupied by lawyers. The bar of Genesee county forms no exception to this rule. There has never been a time when it did not include many men of recognized ability, and the bar as a whole has always compared favorably with that of any other county of anything like equal size. Of those whose names are here recorded only Martindale, Wakeman, Hewitt, Taggart, Peck, Glowacki, Ballard, Pringle, Bangs, Heddon, H. W. Hascall, Bissell, and Crofoot were personally known to the writer. The estimates given of the professional characteristics of the men who form the subject of this article have been derived largely from conversation with those who knew them as lawyers and citizens, and partly, of course, from such printed sketches as were available. The historical facts have been gathered from biographies found in many different places, from newspaper files, court records, recollections of old inhabitants, and in several instances from such meagre statements as are chiseled in marble in the cemetery, or are written down in not less formal phrase in the books of the surrogate's office.

The first judge of the county was Joseph Ellicott, the same man who, as surveyor, blazed his way through the primeval forests of Western New York, and laid out the counties, towns and villages of the Holland Purchase. Mr. Ellicott was not a lawyer. He resigned the position of judge a short time after his appointment in 1803, and was succeeded by Ezra Platt. Of Judge Platt but little information is available, except that he discharged the few duties of the office until about 1812. His will is recorded in book 1 of Wills in the surrogate's office, at page 11, and is the third will entered in the county records. The first was that of Daniel Totten, recorded January 20, 1808, and the second, that of David Franklin, was recorded March 30, 1809, while the record of Judge Platt's will was made January 9, 1812, making three wills in four years.

The succeeding judges down to 1847 were John H. Jones, Isaac Wilson, John Z. Ross, William H. Tisdale, William Mitchell, Phineas L. Tracy, and Edgar C. Dibble. During the same period the surrogates of the county had been Jeremiah R. Munson, whose name does not appear in any of the records of the office, Richard Smith, Andrew A. Ellicott, Ebenezer Mix, Harvey Putnam, Timothy Fitch, and Samuel Willett. Mr. Mix filled the office from 1821 to 1840. Under the law as it has existed since 1847 the functions of county judge and surrogate have been performed by the same official. The duties of surrogate prior to that date were few, as estates were seldom settled.

Richard Smith, whose portrait has for many years hung in the court house, over the chair occupied by the presiding judge, was born in Connecticut, February 17, 1779, and died December 31, 1859. He was a graduate of Yale College and removed to Genesee county in 1803. He was at one time a partner of Daniel B. Brown. Judge Smith seldom, if ever, appeared in court. It is not known that any of the other incumbents of the office up to that time were particularly prominent as lawyers, neither is much information available as to any county judge prior to Phineas L. Tracy. Judge Ross is spoken favorably of as a citizen and lawyer. He died October 27, 1826, at the age of forty years.

Few men have been more closely identified with the history of Genesee county than Judge Tracy. He was born December 25, 1786, at Norwich, Conn., and graduated at Yale in 1806. He was admitted to the bar at Albany in 1811, and removed to Genesee county in 1813. For many years he had an extensive and lucrative practice, and was a man of marked force and ability. He was elected to Congress in 1827

and again in 1829, and in 1841 was appointed "first judge" of the county by William H. Seward, then governor. After his retirement from the bench in 1856 he practiced law but little. He was for many years a member of the vestry of St. James's Church. His death occurred December 22, 1876. An obituary published at that time says: "He would have been 90 years old on Christmas day. A good and just man, full of years and ripe for the harvest, has gone to his peaceful rest."

The next county judge was Edgar C. Dibble, who held the office during the year 1846, and again from 1852 to 1856. Judge Dibble was a fairly well read lawyer, a man of good character, and he discharged the duties of his office satisfactorily. He died February 28, 1862, at the age of fifty-seven years. During the period of his professional career he was at different times in partnership with Timothy Fitch, John H. Martindale and Martin F. Robertson.

Judge Dibble was succeeded by Horace U. Soper, who served four years. Judge Soper is said to have made a good record upon the bench, but was never especially prominent as a practitioner. He was an amiable and agreeable gentleman, of attractive manners and large general information. He died January 15, 1878, at the age of seventy-two years, leaving no descendants.

Joshua L. Brown became county judge and surrogate in 1856 and held the office four years. He died at the age of forty-eight, June 19, 1860, a few months after the expiration of his official term, at St. Louis, Mo. Judge Brown was a good citizen, and a lawyer of extensive learning and decided ability. He is said to have possessed less aptitude for the trial of causes before a jury than for the other duties of his profession, although he tried a large number of cases. Before the court, or as a counselor in his office, he was a strong, safe man. A member of the bar now living tells how he had a habit during the trial of criminal causes, where, as often occurs, the defense was conducted by some young man designated by the court, of taking a seat near the junior thus assigned, when, as the trial proceeded, he would draw his chair up and make suggestions. After a little he would be on his feet arguing a law point, and in one case at the close of the evidence he proceeded at once to sum up to the jury, much to the discomfiture of the young lawyer who had prepared, with great care, an address which was to make his reputation. Judge Brown was for many years a partner of Maj. Henry I. Glowacki. The firm of Brown & Glowacki enjoyed

for many years an extensive and lucrative practice, which was at its full height at the time of Judge Brown's death.

Moses Taggart, who succeeded Judge Brown, died at his home in Batavia, February 17, 1883, at the ripe age of eighty two years. He was the Nestor of our bar, having been in active and continuous practice for about fifty-five years. During his eventful life he had endeared himself to the profession, of which he was an honored member, and was universally respected in the community where he had so long resided. As a lawyer he was thoroughly grounded in the elementary principles of legal science. Throughout his career he was esteemed for his good judgment, safe counsel, and extensive research, rather than for any special ability as a trial lawyer. He had little liking or aptitude for the work of an advocate. A strong, helpful friend of young men, he had witnessed the career of every man at the bar at the time of his death, and it is safe to say that every one of the number felt a sincere attachment for the venerable and honored father of the fraternity. Judge Taggart was born at Colerain, Mass., August 21, 1799. At the age of eighteen years he left his native town to find a home in the newer region of Western New York, and traveled all the way to Byron on foot. His legal studies were pursued in the office of Phineas L. Tracy. Upon his admission to the bar he became a partner of Albert Smith, who at the time was an able and noted practitioner. At different periods of his life he was in partnership with Daniel H. Chandler, Charles Henshaw, Seth Wakeman, and during the latter years of his life with his son-in-law, W. Harris Day. He was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1846, and in 1851 was appointed justice of the Supreme Court to fill a vacancy caused by the death of Judge Sill. This position he filled until the close of 1853, and during the last year of his service became, under the then existing provisions of law, a member of the Court of Appeals. In 1860 he was elected county judge and surrogate of this county, and filled the office acceptably for two terms of four years each. In 1871 Judge Taggart was appointed postmaster of Batavia, which position he held for about four years. He maintained his excellent health and vigorous bearing almost to the end of his life, while his intellectual powers remained unimpaired to the last.

Charles Henshaw was born at Java, Wyoming county, and studied law with Gen. L. W. Thayer at Warsaw. He was elected county judge and surrogate in 1868, and died in office September 18, 1870, at the age of forty-eight years. A man of sterling worth, honest through and

through, he possessed qualifications which rendered him in some respects the most remarkable lawyer who has ever practiced at our bar. It is doubtful if any other lawyer of this county has acquired so extensive a knowledge of the law itself. His memory was unailing, and his familiarity with both elementary law and judicial decisions was vast and perfectly at his command. He could always say "on such a book and page you will find the law." He disregarded all forms, and fashioned his papers briefly and accurately to suit himself. Unwilling or unable to try a case before a jury, he seldom if ever appeared in this capacity. His judicial career, upon which he had fairly entered, gave great promise, and had he lived Charles Henshaw would have filled higher positions upon the bench.

Among the members of the legal profession who have practiced in Le Roy there may be mentioned Jacob Bartow, Alfred F. Bartow and Charles Bartow, his sons, Seth M. Gates, Charles Danforth, Samuel Skinner, Perrin M. Smith, and Augustus P. Hascall.

Jacob Bartow, although never distinguished as a lawyer, was a man of large attainments and rare scholarly tastes. He was a law student with Aaron Burr. He died about 1845. His son, Alfred F. Bartow, studied law with Heman J. Redfield, and later became his partner. He removed west and died several years ago in Chicago. Mr. Bartow was an excellent practical business lawyer, and was a prominent and respected citizen of Le Roy. He was for many years a member of the vestry of St. Mark's church, and took much interest in the work of that society. Charles Bartow studied law with A. P. Hascall, and during the time he practiced in Le Roy was in partnership with Hiram W. Hascall, and afterwards with John R. Olmsted. He removed to New York, where he died. Augustus P. Hascall was for a long time an honored and prominent citizen of Le Roy. He served as presidential elector in 1848, and was a representative in the Thirty-second Congress. He died June 27, 1872, aged about seventy-six years. Charles Danforth was a graduate of Williams College, and was at one time judge of Common Pleas in this county. He was a good lawyer and gave satisfaction as a judge. Samuel Skinner was one of the earliest lawyers in Le Roy, and is said to have been an able, well-read member of the bar. He was a graduate of Williams College, and was possessed of scholarly tastes. He died in Le Roy about the year 1853. Perrin M. Smith studied law with Mr. Redfield and became a partner of Mr. Skinner. He removed from Le Roy to the West, where he died many years

ago. Seth M. Gates practiced law in Le Roy for many years, and was an able man. He was proficient alike as an office lawyer and in the trial and argument of cases. He was elected to Congress in 1839, and soon after completing his term of service removed to Warsaw, where he died about the year 1876. During his residence in Le Roy he was ten years associated in business with David R. Bacon. Mr. Bacon was at one time a law partner of James Summerfield, but upon becoming connected with manufacturing interests several years ago retired from active practice of his profession. He died November 1, 1890.

Among the more prominent of the early Batavia lawyers may be mentioned Albert Smith, who in his day had a wide reputation for extensive legal knowledge, and for his power as an advocate. He was a representative of the Twenty eighth and Twenty-ninth Congresses from this district, and served in the Assembly in 1842. At different times he was associated as a partner with the ablest lawyers of the county. Mr. Smith removed west soon after his service in the State Legislature, and has long since been dead.

Daniel B. Brown was born October 18, 1780, and died July 7, 1822, leaving, it is said, no descendants or near kindred. He is reputed to have been one of the most brilliant advocates who ever practiced in this county. He was somewhat intemperate in habits and erratic in disposition, and consequently never won for himself the position which he otherwise would have gained. It is hardly probable that he is practicing law in the other world, yet his tombstone bears the inscription, copied quite likely from his sign used while living: "Daniel B. Brown, Attorney and Counsellor at Law."

Levi Rumsey was a prominent citizen of this county at an early day, and was intimately concerned in that class of law business connected with the formative period of our history. But little information concerning him is now available, yet an old citizen of Batavia well qualified to know and judge says of him, that in the prime of life he was not only the foremost lawyer of this county, but of Western New York. He was unquestionably a man of high character and of decided ability. Mr. Rumsey was district attorney of this county from 1829 to 1834. He was born in Connecticut, December 8, 1776, and died December 29, 1833.

Ethan B. Allen was among the most prominent of the early lawyers of the county, and was a man of high character and unusual attainments. In personal bearing he was "a gentleman of the old school." He was

born in Columbia county, October 21, 1787, and died April 19, 1835. He was the father-in-law of that distinguished advocate and jurist, Isaac A. Verplanck. Mr. Allen was a State senator from this district from 1826 to 1830. Upon his tombstone are inscribed the words "intelligent, virtuous, and affectionate, he fulfilled the various duties of a legislator, a citizen, and a friend."

Daniel H. Chandler, who was for many years a prominent citizen of this county, was born in 1795, and died March 29, 1864, at Madison, Wis., where he had removed in 1847. He was district attorney of this county from 1834 to 1838. Mr. Chandler was an able and thoroughly equipped lawyer, combining in an unusual degree the characteristics of advocate and counselor. He was a partner at one time of Senator Ethan B. Allen, and later with Hon. Moses Taggart. Mr. Chandler is well remembered by quite a number of our older residents, all of whom attest his worth as a man and his talents as a lawyer. His ability as a trial lawyer brought him actively into the management of many notable cases, where he won for himself high commendation from bench, bar and clients. He was the father of the late Rear-Admiral Ralph Chandler, of the United States navy. After his removal to Wisconsin Mr. Chandler acquired a large practice, and fully maintained the reputation he had gained here.

George W. Lay, the fourth son of John Lay, esq., was born at Catskill, N. Y., July 27, 1798. He graduated at Hamilton College, N. Y., in the class of 1817. He came to Batavia the same year and studied law in the office of Hon. Phineas L. Tracy. After his admission to the bar he became a law partner of Mr. Tracy. The firm of Tracy & Lay did and extensive law business in the territory now embracing the counties of Genesee, Wyoming and Orleans, and enjoyed a wide reputation and extensive acquaintance throughout the State. At that time the Genesee bar was composed of lawyers of marked ability and talent. John B. Skinner, Daniel H. Chandler, Ethan B. Allen, Heman J. Redfield, Daniel B. Brown, Moses Taggart, Albert Smith, and many others attended the courts and were in full practice. Mr. Lay was a close practitioner under the old system, and was noted for his skill and dexterity as a pleader. The partnership ended in 1832. Mr. Lay was at that time elected to Congress. He then became a partner with James G. Merrill and Horace U. Soper. In 1840 he was elected to the Assembly of the State of New York, and served as chairman of the canal committee. His canal report was characterized as a document of

marked foresight and ability. In 1842 he was appointed chargé d'affaires at the court of Norway and Sweden, and resided three years at Stockholm. After his return home his health failed, he became a confirmed invalid, and died October 21, 1860.

Isaac A. Verplanck, who was ranked as one of the ablest lawyers in Western New York, practiced for several years in Batavia. He was born October 16, 1812, and came to Genesee county in 1831. For a considerable time he was in partnership with John H. Martindale, the two forming a very strong law firm. Mr. Verplanck lacked the industry and indomitable energy which characterized his distinguished partner, but compensated by his masterly abilities, by his extensive knowledge of the law, and his great forensic power. He was district attorney of this county from 1838 to 1842, and again in 1846. Soon after this he removed to Buffalo. He was elected one of the judges of the Superior Court of that city, and held the position during the remainder of his life. For the last three years he was chief judge. His death occurred October 15, 1873.

Elijah Hurty, whose early death terminated a career of marked promise and usefulness, was a man of scholarly tastes, genial disposition, and excellent character. He was born in Bethany, in this county, and when quite a young man became principal of Union School in Batavia. Soon after his admission to the bar he formed a partnership with Hon. George Bowen, under the firm name of Hurty & Bowen. He died August 10, 1854, at the age of thirty-two years.

James G. Hoyt spent but a small portion of his professional life in this county, and although a sketch of his career is hardly within the scope of this article, yet so well was he known here that his name cannot properly be omitted. He was born in Camden, January 25, 1806, and removed to Genesee county in 1812. His father died six years later, leaving a widow and nine children in such poverty that the future jurist was at once thrown upon his own resources. In 1830 he was elected a constable, and discharged the duties of his office with so much promptness and intelligence as to attract the attention of leading business men. In 1834 he was elected justice of the peace, and the same year began to read law with Moses Taggart. Shortly after his admission to the bar he removed to Attica, which was then included in Genesee county. He gained almost immediate recognition as a lawyer of unusual industry, thoroughness and ability. After a few years he removed to Buffalo, and was twice elected justice

of the Supreme Court. In the discharge of the exacting duties of that office he gained a high reputation, and is remembered by all our older lawyers as one of the ablest of the many eminent men who have filled the position. He died October 23, 1863.

Probably no firm of lawyers ever enjoyed so varied and extended a practice in this county as Wakeman & Bryan, who were copartners from 1852 until the death of Mr. Bryan, which occurred in October, 1867. The combination was one of unusual strength. Seth Wakeman was a successful trial lawyer, while William G. Bryan was a counselor of learning and discretion. Mr. Wakeman was born in Vermont, January 15, 1811. His father was a soldier in the War of 1812, and died in the service, leaving a widow and a large family of children in destitute circumstances. They soon removed to this county. When quite a young man Mr. Wakeman was elected a constable of the town of Pembroke, and it was by reason of his occasional duties at justice's courts that he became interested in law. In 1838 he was elected a justice of the peace, and six years later, at the age of thirty-three, he was admitted to the bar. After a brief partnership with Joseph Sleeper the firm of Wakeman & Bryan was formed. After Mr. Bryan's death Mr. Wakeman was for a time a partner of Judge Taggart, and afterwards, and up to his forced retirement on account of failing health in 1875, he was associated with William C. Watson, the firm doing an extensive business. Mr. Wakeman was a Whig until the dissolution of that party, when he became a Republican. He was elected district attorney in 1850 and served two terms. In 1856 and 1857 he was a member of assembly. In 1867 he was a member of the State Constitutional Convention, and in 1870 he was elected to the Forty-second Congress. As a citizen Mr. Wakeman was generous, companionable and kind. Distinctively a self-made man, he was always in warmest sympathy with every person whom he found struggling with adverse fortune. While eminently fair as a lawyer his strongest antagonists found him "a foe-man worthy of their steel." He was an admirable trial lawyer, and gained a splendid practice and reputation as such. Possessed of few of the graces of oratory, Mr. Wakeman was nevertheless a strong, trenchant and convincing speaker. He died January 4, 1880.

William G. Bryan was born January 28, 1822, in Brighton, England. He came to America and settled in Le Roy in 1830. His law studies were pursued with Albert Smith and with Moses Taggart. In 1851 he formed a partnership with John H. Martindale, which was soon dis-

solved by the removal of the latter to Rochester. In politics Mr. Bryan was an ardent Democrat, and was a trusted adviser in all party matters. He was a lawyer of decided ability, but from choice spent his time inside his office preparing papers, giving counsel and examining cases. He was a man of refined tastes, of scholarly attainments, and great personal worth. Between him and Mr. Wakeman the strongest attachment existed. His untimely death, at the age of forty-five, was the result of an accident. He had gone to Burlington, Iowa, on a visit, and while there, in endeavoring to control a frightened horse, he was thrown from a carriage and killed. A public meeting of the citizens of Batavia was held on the sad occasion. His accomplished and estimable wife, Ruth Bryan, for many years principal of the Bryan Seminary, died January 13, 1897, at Buffalo.

James M. Willett was born October 10, 1831. He graduated at the Albany Law School in 1856. In 1859 he was elected district attorney, being the first Democrat ever elected to that office in this county. He entered the army in 1862 and became a major of the famous Eighth New York Heavy Artillery. In the fearful ordeal through which that regiment passed at Cold Harbor he was severely wounded. Upon re-joining his regiment three months later, he became colonel, and to the close of the war commanded a brigade. After leaving the army he engaged in business in New York until 1870, when he removed to Buffalo and formed the well known law partnership of Laning, Folsom & Willett. The firm were the legal representatives of the New York Central Railroad, and did a large general practice. Colonel Willett continued to suffer from his army wounds, his health gave way, and he died June 6, 1877. He was a strong, well equipped lawyer, a genial and companionable friend, a Christian gentleman. Few men ever practiced at our bar who had so strong a hold on the affections of his associates and the people at large.

Martin F. Robertson was a native of Genesee county, and passed his life in Batavia. He was possessed of decided ability, fair legal learning, and was a good trial lawyer. As a man he was very companionable and popular. He died March 21, 1868, at the age of forty-eight years, never having married.

Benjamin Pringle, for many years one of the foremost citizens of this county, was born in the year 1807, at Richfield, in this State. He came to Batavia in 1830 and formed a partnership with Albert Smith, and later became a partner of Heman J. Redfield. He was judge of

the county from 1841 to 1846. In 1852, and again in 1854, he was elected to Congress. In 1862 he was member of assembly and in 1863 President Lincoln appointed him judge under a treaty between the United States and Great Britain for the suppression of the slave trade. He remained in the discharge of the duties of this office for seven years at Cape of Good Hope. Judge Pringle was a competent equity lawyer, but without special taste for the trial of causes. As a citizen he was public spirited and patriotic. In private life he was exemplary. For many years he was a warden of St. James's Episcopal church, of which he was a devoted member. During his old age he divided his time between Batavia and Hastings, Minn., where his sons lived. He died at the latter place June 7, 1887. His remains are buried in Batavia.

Marlbro W. Hewitt, though never particularly active as a practitioner was a respected member of the bar, and an esteemed and well known citizen of Batavia. He was for a great many years a justice of the peace and discharged the duties of that office with fidelity and unusual intelligence. Mr. Hewitt died January 23, 1880, at the age of sixty-four years.

Heman J. Redfield was born in Connecticut December 27, 1788. His father removed to Western New York and the son remained on the farm till 1808 when he entered the Canandaigua Academy. He studied law with that distinguished jurist, John C. Spencer. He volunteered as a private in the war of 1812 and served through two campaigns. He was in the battle of Queenston Heights and was with Gen. Harrison at Fort George where he received a brevet from the commanding general for valiant service. In 1815 he began the practice of law at Le Roy. He was appointed district attorney in 1821; he was State senator from 1823 to 1825, and during the last year of this service he was appointed one of the New York commissioners to settle a boundary question with New Jersey. He served as postmaster in Le Roy for more than twenty years. He was offered and declined the position of special counsel to assist in the trial of the persons accused of abducting William Morgan. In 1835 he declined the office of circuit judge tendered him by Governor Marcy; in 1836 he became the purchaser with Jacob Le Roy from the Holland Land Company of its unsold possessions. President Pierce appointed him naval officer of New York but he was soon transferred to the office of collector of the port of New York and he held this position until June 30, 1857, although James Buchanan, who had then lately come into office, offered to continue him. During

the Civil war Mr. Redfield was conspicuous as a War Democrat and his intense loyalty was of great value to the Union cause.

A sketch of his life published many years ago, says, "On Sunday evening, July 22, 1877, he sat with the members of his family on the veranda of his house, enjoying the cool breezes after the heat of the day, appearing in excellent health and spirits. About eight o'clock he complained of a dizziness in his head, entered the house, gradually grew worse, and became unconscious, and about ten o'clock he peacefully, painlessly, breathed his last. Thus closed the earthly career of a good, kind-hearted, benevolent man, and a true and devout Christian. During his long life he was an active and devout member of St. James Episcopal Church at Batavia, serving as vestryman and warden. Many citizens attested their respect and esteem for their old neighbor and friend by their attendance at the funeral service Wednesday evening. The procession was one of the longest ever seen in the village. Immediately following the hearse came the venerable roadster, so long the favorite riding horse of Mr. Redfield, saddled and bridled, and led by the groom."

One of the most interesting figures in the history of the bar of Genesee county and of Western New York was Gen. John H. Martindale. Although most of his professional life was passed in Rochester, whither he removed in 1852, he had prior to that time served two terms as district attorney of this county, and had laid the foundation of his brilliant career as an advocate and orator. Having received a military education at West Point he entered the army at the breaking out of the Rebellion. He did active and efficient service in the field quite early in the war, and later served as military governor of the District of Columbia, with the rank of major-general. He was elected attorney-general of this State in 1865. General Martindale became famous in his management of actions for damages for personal injuries brought against railroad corporations, particularly the New York Central. His most frequent antagonist was that most brilliant and admirable trial lawyer, the late Albert P. Laning, of Buffalo. They tried a large number of cases opposed to each other in this county, and the memory of those days is an ever recurring delight. The court house was always filled and the audience always entertained. The limits of this article forbid what might be an interesting account of this remarkable man. Always eloquent, he had the faculty of being most so in cases otherwise commonplace. The writer has heard many of his addresses to juries,

but the most eloquent is remembered as his summing up in the case of Garwood against the New York Central Railroad, an action brought to recover damages for injury to plaintiff's mill power by pumping water from the Tonawanda Creek into tanks for the use of locomotive boilers. The theme was certainly not one which would seem to afford opportunity for a display of oratory, yet the speaker proved superior to the occasion, and the result was an address seldom equalled. Although of agreeable disposition General Martindale was rather easily ruffled when engaged in the trial of important cases. His wily opponent learned well his sensitive points, and never failed to take advantage of them. As General Martindale always appeared for the plaintiff in railroad cases he had the advantage of the closing address. He was quite fond, in talking to a Genesee county jury, of indulging in reminiscences, and often referred to his acquaintance with the fathers of some of the younger jurymen, and to old associations connected with Batavia. On one well remembered occasion, when Mr. Laning thought his florid antagonist would be apt to find opportunity for a display of this kind, he turned his weapons against him in that quiet and inimitable manner so strikingly in contrast with the exuberant style of his opponent. He told the jury what the general would shortly proceed to narrate in their hearing, including all that Martindale could possibly say about his early home, his dead partner, "the classic Verplanck," his friends and neighbors, the old church, etc. The result was that the orator was compelled to change his tactics. The contests between Martindale and Laning will always be remembered by those who enjoyed the privilege of listening to and witnessing the efforts of these remarkable but wholly dissimilar men. In private life General Martindale was greatly esteemed. His character was above reproach, and he was a man of sincere piety. His personal appearance and bearing attracted admiration at all times. In 1881 he went to Europe in a vain search for health, but died in Nice, France, on the thirteenth day of December of that year, at the age of sixty-six.

Lucius N. Bangs was born April 4, 1825. He studied law with Augustus P. Hascall, with whom, after his admission to the bar, he formed a partnership. He subsequently became a partner of Elizer Hinsdale, who after a few years removed to New York. In 1870 Mr. Bangs was elected county judge and surrogate of this county, and held the office for twelve years. During his first term Marcus L. Babcock was clerk of the surrogate's court, and during his last term the position

was filled by Frank S. Wood, now of the Batavia bar. Judge Bangs did not receive a college education but he was a man of rare scholarly tastes and extraordinary attainments, both in the field of his profession and in literature and science. His law library was one of the finest private collections in the State, while his miscellaneous library was of great value, selected as it had been with discrimination and taste. The latter collection was unfortunately burned in a fire which destroyed its owner's residence. Judge Bangs was not fond of the work of a trial lawyer, but in his arguments before the appellate courts he displayed great ability and a degree of learning which was marvelous. After his term of office expired he removed to Buffalo. He died in the city of New York December 3, 1892. At a meeting of the bar of Genesee county held a few days later, the Hon. George Bowen said that he had collected and preserved Judge Bangs's printed briefs, and that he considered the discussions contained in them absolutely exhaustive of the questions involved, a rare compliment from one well qualified to judge. Judge Bangs was a delightful man in his social and family relations, and his associates of the bar were much attached to him.

Henry I. Glowacki was born in Poland in 1816 of a distinguished family. He was the son of a prominent general of the Polish war of 1812. Having participated in the revolutionary movement he was imprisoned for two years, and afterward, about the year 1833, was exiled by the Austrian government. In New York he was favored with the friendship of Albert Gallatin, who while a foreign minister had known his father. Mr. Glowacki made the acquaintance of David E. Evans, who offered him a position in the now historic Land Office in Batavia. He came here in 1834, and continued for four years in the land office. During his later years Major Glowacki used to tell that early in this service he was employed to copy records, and that, although wholly unable to read the English language, he performed the work by imitating the handwriting assigned to him to copy. He was admitted to the bar in 1840. He was shortly afterward appointed master in chancery, and served until 1846. He was for several years a law partner of Judge Joshua L. Brown, and the firm enjoyed a large and lucrative practice. Mr. Glowacki was seldom, if ever, engaged in the trial of cases, or in legal arguments, but he was a valuable and accurate office lawyer. Major Glowacki was a Democrat, and was for many years conspicuous in the councils of his party in State and county. He was four times a delegate to national Democratic conventions. He served

nine years as president of the Batavia Board of Education. Major Glowacki was a man of elegant and distinguished personal appearance. Although he became a proficient English scholar he always retained a marked foreign accent in speech. He died at his home in Batavia in November, 1895, having years before retired from the practice of the law.

Randolph Ballard died December 26, 1890, at the age of sixty-eight years. He studied law with Judge A. P. Hascall. He was at one time in business with Gen. C. F. Bissell. Upon the death of Judge Henshaw in 1870, Mr. Ballard was appointed by the Democratic governor to fill the vacancy, and served for the remainder of the year. No one who ever knew him can forget his elegant manners and his fastidious dress. Like qualities extended to his business and professional life. He was an excellent penman and all his work was neatly, promptly and accurately done. Judge Ballard tried some cases in court and tried them well, but he was essentially a business lawyer and business man and was successful as such. In the fall of 1890 he found himself obliged to submit to a critical surgical operation. He was unable to rally from its effects and died in Rochester on the 26th day of September.

Thomas P. Heddon was born at Stafford, N. Y., December 2, 1840. He was educated at the common schools and at the Genesee and Wyoming Seminary in Alexander. He studied law with Randolph Ballard, and was admitted to the bar in 1865. Mr. Heddon was for several years a justice of the peace of the town of Le Roy, and served as district attorney of the county from 1878 to 1881. He was a trustee of the village of Le Roy at the time of his death. He was a Republican in politics, and his services as a public speaker were often in demand at political meetings. Mr. Heddon died June 23, 1894.

Myron H. Peck was born May 28, 1827. At the age of fourteen he received an injury which rendered it evident that he must choose a vocation unattended with active physical labor, and he soon concluded to make the law his profession. He studied in Canandaigua in the office of Lapham & Metcalf, and after his admission to the bar he became the partner of Elbridge G. Lapham, one of the members of this firm and afterwards representative in Congress and United States senator. The firm dissolved in 1858, and Mr. Peck removed to Batavia. He was for a time associated in business with Col. James M. Willett and afterwards with Hon. George Bowen, under the firm name of Peck & Bowen. In 1882 he was nominated by the Democratic party for the

office of county judge and surrogate, and was elected. After the expiration of his term he removed to Buffalo, where he continued in practice until his last illness. He died September 2, 1898. A meeting of the bar was held a few days later at a term of the court. Appropriate remarks were made by Hon. Nathan A. Woodward, William Tyrrell, H. F. Tarbox and H. B. Cone. Judge North, presiding, presented the following memorial prepared by him, which, upon the request of Mr. Tyrrell, was ordered entered upon the minutes of the court:

"The death of Judge Peck having occurred so soon before a regular term of the court over which he presided for six years, the suggestion was made by several members of the bar that it would be quite appropriate that this court room should be selected as a place of a meeting of the lawyers of the county to take suitable action, in open court, expressive of our sorrow at the death of our associate and of our appreciation of the intellectual qualities which rendered him one of the most notable figures in the history of our bar.

"Here for thirty years he practiced his profession, and could these walls speak what memories would they recall! His thorough preparation in every case with which he was connected, his keen and analytical mind, his abounding knowledge of the law and the vehement force with which he expounded it, his terse and lucid expression of legal principles, the contempt with which he brushed aside matters which he deemed unimportant, and the power with which he massed all his virile force into a few strong points, all of these things combine at this hour to bring his familiar face and voice vividly before us.

"To those of us who have served long enough to have known of these qualities, it will be hard to realize that he has gone out from his place for the last time, and by every member of our bar from the oldest to the youngest he will be remembered as a man of unusual learning in the profession which he loved, of great force and strength in the practice of the law and as a fair and impartial judge.

"It may well be added that although his aggressive temperament made him a stern and uncompromising antagonist, yet down deep he was greatly attached to the members of his own profession and to his friends in general, and since his removal from this county nine years ago, he has always, on the occasion of his visits to Batavia, evinced the warmest interest in the welfare of his old friends and neighbors and the liveliest satisfaction at every opportunity to renew old friendships.

" He is now numbered among those whose lives are of the past, and of all of these who have practiced law here it is doubtful if there has been one possessed of wider learning in the great profession of which he was an honored member."

Hiram W. Hascall was born at Le Roy, December 18, 1812, and his long and eventful life was wholly passed in that town. Up to about a year previous to his death he had retained his vigor in a remarkable degree, and was as active as at any period of his life. He was a staunch adherent of the Republican party, and his devotion to the best interests of that organization was proverbial. Business matters absorbed his attention quite largely, and he was never particularly active as a practitioner. He was elected county clerk in 1855, and served for two terms. In 1864 he was appointed collector of internal revenue. In 1869 he was made postmaster of Le Roy, and filled that position to the satisfaction of his townspeople for sixteen years. Mr. Hascall was a man of upright life and a most kind and genial friend and companion. He died December 2, 1898.

William R. Crofoot was born December 10, 1855, and was reared upon his father's farm in Pavilion. He attended the Le Roy Academy for some time, and graduated from Amherst College in 1880. He studied law with Hon. Randolph Ballard, and after his admission to the bar occupied the office with Judge Ballard until the death of the latter. Mr. Crofoot was three times elected as a justice of the peace of the town of Le Roy and six times village clerk. He was the attorney of record for the executors of the will of William Lampson in the important litigation connected with the large estate left by Mr. Lampson. Mr. Crofoot was a man of agreeable manners and of great kindness of heart. His death occurred December 3, 1898.

C. Fitch Bissell was born in Greenfield, Mass., March 9, 1818. He came to Le Roy with his parents in 1838, and resided there until his death, which occurred December 11, 1898. Always a striking and interesting personality, few men have ever been so widely known in Genesee county. He commenced the practice of law in 1842, with Samuel Skinner as a partner. Later he was in partnership with Randolph Ballard. For many years before his death he had been associated with his son, David Jackson Bissell. He held the position of quartermaster-general on the staff of Governor John T. Hoffmann, and the title of "general" clung to him the rest of his life. He served as district attorney from 1866 to 1869, and again from 1875 to 1878. He was a good

trial lawyer and a successful business man, both in the management of his own affairs and those of his clients. He was always looking out for the common sense view of a question, and his keen and analytical mind and his natural sense of justice were important factors in contributing to his success. Possessed of an abounding humor and fond of companionship, he made hosts of friends. His intellectual vigor remained unimpaired until the end of his life. It was a remarkable circumstance that three members of the Le Roy bar died within the space of ten days, Hascall, Crofoot and Bissell. All had been public spirited and useful citizens.

Walter H. Smith was born in West Bloomfield, Ontario county, N. Y., July 25, 1853, a son of Nelson H. and Ellen B. (Pellett) Smith. His mother was a native of Montville, New London county, Conn. His father was a native of East Lyme, New London county, Conn., and was connected with a book publishing house in Hartford, Conn., for a number of years. He subsequently moved to West Bloomfield, N. Y., and with a brother purchased a large tract of land. He later met with an accident which hastened his death. Walter H. was then an infant. Subsequently his mother married Henry G. Deshon and the family moved to Le Roy in 1861, where Walter H. attended the Le Roy Academic Institute and later Williston (Mass.) Seminary, where he fitted for college. He returned to this place and entered the office of Hon. Lucius N. Bangs, who was then county judge of Genesee county, and studied law for four years, then entered the Albany Law School, from which he was graduated with the class of 1876. He immediately began the practice of his profession in Le Roy, where he has built up an extensive practice. Mr. Smith has given strict attention to his business and has never sought public office of any kind; he ranks with the leading members of the Genesee county bar. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Olive Branch Lodge, Le Roy Chapter and Batavia Commandery.

Frederick S. Randall was born in Stafford, Genesee county, N. Y., April 3, 1864, a son of Perry and Mary E. (Batchelder) Randall, natives of Stafford and Le Roy respectively. His grandfather, Stephen Randall, came to Genesee county, February 2, 1815, from New Hampshire, and purchased a tract of land at Stafford, which is now owned by Perry Randall. The original farm was one hundred and fifty acres. Stephen died on the farm in 1859; he had a family of fourteen children. Perry, the youngest, was born July 16, 1822; he now resides in the village of

Le Roy and is active and in good health. Frederick S. received his preliminary education at Le Roy Academic Institute and was graduated from Union College with the degree A. B. in 1886. He studied law with William C. Watson, Hon. S. E. North and Edward P. White of Amsterdam; was admitted to practice in 1890, and followed his profession as a lawyer for four years at Fairport, Monroe county, N. Y. He located in Le Roy, in September, 1894, where he has since been in the practice of his profession. He was elected to the office of district attorney in November, 1898. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. of Le Roy; and politically is a Republican. He married Helene C. Garvin of Schenectady and has two daughters, Dorothy and Nanette. Mr. Randall is from one of the oldest families in the county, both his father's and mother's families being pioneers.

William C. Watson has been one of the leaders of the Genesee county bar, and for many years a public spirited and prominent citizen of Batavia. He is a native of this county, born in the village of Pembroke in 1837. His early educational opportunities were limited to the common schools and a short term in the seminary at Alexander, but from his father, who as a justice of the peace held considerable reputation, he seems to have derived a legal mind and a love for the profession. He began his legal training under the direction of Col. James M. Willett, and later entered the office of Wakeman & Bryan. He was admitted in 1865 and practiced for a short time with Mr. Tyrrell, and subsequently with Hon. Seth Wakeman. He made rapid strides in his profession and soon gained substantial recognition and lucrative practice. He has been particularly successful as a trial lawyer. In politics he has been an active Republican and a frequent delegate to the conventions of the party. He has served two terms as district attorney, and in 1882 was a candidate for member of congress. Mr. Watson has been earnest in his support of education, and a frequent member of the school board. He has contributed largely to the material prosperity of Batavia through his generous support of manufacturing industries.

Hon. George Bowen, son of Abiel and Anna S. (Cone) Bowen, was born in Shelby, Orleans county, this State, September 28, 1831. His father was a physician and practiced in Shelby and vicinity a long term of years. Mr. Bowen was educated in the common schools, at Millville Academy, and Cary Collegiate Institute, from which he was graduated in 1848. Following graduation he was engaged as a teacher for two years at Byron in Genesee county, and Royalton in Niagara county.

May 10, 1851, he came to Batavia and began the study of law in the office of Martindale & Bryan. He was admitted to the bar in December, 1852, and formed a partnership with Elijah Hurty, who had been for a number of years principal of the Batavia Union School. Their association continued until Mr. Hurty's death in the summer of 1854. In the following year Mr. Bowen combined forces with N. A. Woodward under the firm name of Woodward & Bowen, which continued until 1859 when Mr. Woodward retired. For scarcely a year, beginning in 1860, Mr. Bowen had as his partner William W. Rowley, who went to the defense of the Union in 1861 and became an aide on the staff of General Banks. In 1864 the firm of Bowen & Walker was formed (Edward C. Walker). The latter retired in 1866 and was succeeded by Charles Henshaw, who in 1867 was elected county judge. Mr. Bowen practiced alone until 1869 and in that year formed a partnership with Myron H. Peck, which continued until May, 1873. From 1878 to 1883 he was associated with Loren Greene, who removed to Chicago in the latter year. In 1889 the present firm of Bowen & Washburn was formed by the admission of Edward A. Washburn, who had read law in Mr. Bowen's office. Mr. Bowen has been an active Republican and has acceptably filled many positions of public trust. He has served as village and town clerk, corporation counsel, district attorney for three years, as postmaster of Batavia under President Lincoln, trustee of the State Institution for the Blind from 1869 to 1874, and as State senator from 1870 to 1874. He was one of the commissioners appointed to purchase the park of the State Institution for the Blind. Mr. Bowen was one of the organizers of the First National Bank of Batavia and has been a director since 1864. For years he was a director and president of the Holland Purchase Insurance Co. of Batavia. He married in December, 1856, Emerette A., daughter of Cyrus Walker of Byron and Batavia. One daughter, Anna C. Bowen, has been born of this union.

Benjamin F. Hawes, son of Dan and Clarissa (Church) Hawes, was born in Oakfield, June 8, 1833. His father was a native of Berkshire county, Mass., a soldier in the war of 1812, and came to Genesee county in 1831. Mr. Hawes was educated at Cary Collegiate Seminary and the Albany Law School. He was admitted in 1856 and began practice in Oakfield in 1860. He has served continuously as justice of the peace since January 1, 1861, and as clerk of the board of supervisors since 1867. Since the organization of the Union School he has been a member of the board of education of which he is now president. He has

long been an active member and trustee of the First Presbyterian church. His son, Francis L., has been employed for several years in the county clerk's office and is at present special deputy clerk. In that capacity he officiates as court clerk at all trial terms.

William F. Huyek was born in Le Roy, N. Y., March 23, 1866, a son of William and Phoebe (Harris) Huyek, natives of Columbia county and Genesee county respectively. His father came with his parents to Le Roy when twelve years of age. William Huyek was a farmer and accumulated considerable wealth before his death; he was quite prominent in the county and in the building up of the village of Le Roy. He was a member of the board of education and a village trustee and president and trustee of the Macpelah Cemetery Association. He owned extensive farming interests and village property, among which is the Eagle Hotel, which is one of the oldest buildings in the village; he died in August, 1896; his wife is still living. William F. was the only child, and was educated in the Le Roy Academic Institute and Union College at Schenectady, from which he graduated in 1887. He then spent a year as clerk in the Le Roy post-office; then read law with Walter H. Smith for one year, when he entered the Albany Law School and was graduated in 1890. He spent two years in Buffalo in the practice of his profession, then returned to Le Roy. He is a member of the board of education and water commissioners; is a member of Olive Branch Lodge No. 39, of which he is past master; Le Roy Chapter No. 183, of which he is treasurer and master third rail; Batavia Commandery, Rochester Consistory, Damascus Temple Mystic Shrine, the Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine, of which he was a charter member and high prelate for a time, and vestryman and treasurer of St. Mark's Episcopal church.

David Dean Lent was born in the village of Corfu, in Genesee county, September 2, 1866. He is the youngest child of David and Ruth Jeannett Lent, who came from Otsego county to Pembroke in 1858. He received a common school education, graduating from the Batavia High School in 1884. He was employed as discount clerk in the First National Bank of Batavia in 1885-6, and then went to Kansas City, Mo., to take a position as stenographer with Jacob Dold & Son, pork and beef packers. In 1888 he returned to Batavia and entered the law office of William C. Watson; he was admitted to the bar in 1892, and in March, 1894, formed a law partnership with James A. Le Seur, then district attorney of Genesee county. In March, 1895, Mr. Lent, in

conjunction with Mr. E. K. Calkins, purchased the Spirit of the Times, which is now published by the firm of Calkins & Lent, although still retaining his law partnership with Mr. Le Seur.

Frank S. Wood was born in Detroit, Mich., September 14, 1856, and came to Batavia with his parents in 1859. Selecting the law as a profession he read with William C. Watson, also with Hon. Lucius N. Bangs. He was admitted to the bar in 1878 and served as clerk of the Surrogate's Court from 1877 to 1883. He was elected district attorney of Genesee county in 1886 and re-elected in 1889. Mr. Wood is now (1899) a trustee of the New York State School for the Blind at Batavia and treasurer of that institution. He enjoys the merited reputation of being a discreet business lawyer, accurate and methodical in the preparation of papers, and a safe and judicious adviser. He married, September 4, 1884, Harriet G. Holden.

Arthur E. Clark was born in the town of Clarkson, Monroe county, June 10, 1854, a son of Norris G. and Grace (Plumb) Clark. Norris G. Clark was a native of Bloomfield, Ontario county, and came to Batavia in 1859; he was a practicing physician until the time of his death, July 22, 1876, and was recognized as one of the leading physicians of Western New York, a man whose judgment was sought and respected by all who knew him. Arthur E. Clark was graduated from Yale College in 1875 and read law with William C. Watson of Batavia. He was admitted to the bar in 1878, and remained with Mr. Watson until 1886, when he established his present practice. Mr. Clark has been connected in business with large corporate interests and has arranged successfully many matters of importance for clients against corporations. He has lately been successfully engaged in cases against the various telephone and telegraph companies for erecting poles on highways. He married, in 1890, Miss Alice M. Hurd of Buffalo.

W. Harris Day, United States commissioner for the Northern District of New York for the past fifteen years, was born in Stafford, this county, June 24, 1841, a son of Thomas H. and Henrietta (Hooper) Day. His father was a seafaring man and for many years captain of a sailing vessel. Mr. Day was educated at Alexander Academy and Genesee College, now Syracuse University. He began his legal studies in the office of Judge Taggart of Batavia, and in 1867 was graduated from the Columbian Law School at Washington, D. C. Following his graduation he practiced in the city of Chicago nearly three years and then returned to Batavia and entered into a partnership with Judge

Taggart, which continued until the latter's death. The firm of Taggart & Day gained considerable recognition in the profession from their connection as the plaintiff's attorneys in the celebrated case of *John Garwood vs. the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad Company*, brought to prohibit the railroad company from taking water out of Tonawanda creek for engines. The first of this class, this case attracted widespread attention. The judgment in favor of the plaintiff was affirmed by the Court of Appeals. Mr. Day is one of the executors of the estate of Mary E. Richmond, wife of Dean Richmond. He has been an active member and trustee of the Presbyterian church for several years. He married, in October, 1869, Fanny Elma, a daughter of Judge Taggart. Seven children were born to them, six of whom survive.

Fred H. Dunham was born in 1861 at Orangeville, Wyoming county, N. Y., a son of George H. and Louisa (Virgin) Dunham. His father was a farmer and well known citizen of Wyoming county, where he served for several years as school commissioner. Mr. Dunham was educated at the Attica Union School and Cornell University, where he was graduated with the class of 1886. In the spring of the following year he began the study of law in the office of Hon. A. J. Lorish of Attica, but soon came to the office of Hon. Safford E. North in Batavia, with whom he remained until his admission in June, 1889. In April, 1891, he formed his present partnership with F. S. Wood (Wood & Dunham).

Edward A. Washburn was born in Randolph, Orange county, Vermont, January 21, 1868, a son of Julian J. and Martha (Bigelow) Washburn. He was educated in Batavia, whither he came in 1877. He began the study of law in 1885 in the office of Hon. George Bowen and was admitted March 29, 1889. In the same year the present firm of Bowen & Washburn was formed. Mr. Washburn is serving as referee in bankruptcy for this district, a position to which he was appointed in December, 1898, by United States District Judge A. C. Cox. He is a director of the First National Bank of Batavia. May 6, 1896, he married Frances Virginia, daughter of James P. Marsh of Chicago.

Sidney A. Sherwin, son of Jacob R. and Amelia (Allyn) Sherwin, was born in Byron, this county, August 27, 1842. He was educated at the Cary Collegiate Seminary, Canandaigua Academy, and Hamilton College, from which he was graduated with the class of 1867. He went from Hamilton College to the Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute as in-

structor in rhetoric and oratory. Later he read law and was admitted to the bar in 1868, at Brooklyn, N. Y. Mr. Sherwin began practice in Batavia in 1869, forming a partnership with H. F. Tarbox, which continued until March 1, 1899, a period of thirty years. In politics he has been a Republican. Governor Morton appointed him a trustee of the State School for the Blind and he still retains this position. He is engaged in insurance business and is not in active law practice.

Herbert P. Woodward, son of Nathan A. and Martha (Allen) Woodward, was born in Batavia, March 28, 1868. He was educated in the public schools and at Williams College, from which he was graduated with the class of 1888. For two years following he was engaged in the profession of teaching in the schools of this county and the State of Virginia. Mr. Woodward began the study of law in his father's office and was admitted to the bar in 1892. He has served as police justice four years. He married, in 1896, Bertha L., daughter of Rev. Cyrus A. Johnson of Batavia.

Myron H. Peck, son of Myron H. and Delia M. (Bickford) Peck, was born in Victor, Ontario county, June 6, 1850. He was educated at Clinton Institute, and began the study of law in his father's office (Peck & Bowen). Later he attended the Albany Law School, from which he was graduated LL. B., May 6, 1872. Three days later he was admitted to the bar and has since practiced in Batavia. Mr. Peck was appointed postmaster at Batavia in the first administration of Grover Cleveland, and served for five years. He has been corporation counsel for the village of Batavia for several years. He has been connected as counsel in a large number of important cases, and few lawyers in the county have appeared so often in the Appellate courts. He has lately been associated with District Attorney Randall in the preparation of the brief and upon the argument in the Court of Appeals of the Howard C. Benham murder case.

Henry F. Tarbox was born in Scottsville, Monroe county, N. Y., March 1, 1839, a son of Henry and Julia (Brainerd) Tarbox. His father was a noted anti-slavery and temperance man, and his home was one of the stations of the underground railway; he died in 1859. Henry F. Tarbox was educated at Genesee Wesleyan Seminary and Genesee College, receiving the degree of A. M. from the latter institution. In 1862 he was appointed second lieutenant of Co. C, 108th N. Y. Vols., and took part in the battle of Antietam, where his brother, Dr. Brainerd Tarbox, was killed. He was discharged for disability in 1863 and sub-

sequently entered the paymaster's department, where he remained until 1864. He was commissioned brevet major for gallant and meritorious services during the war, and is a member of the G. A. R. and the Loyal Legion. Mr. Tarbox came to Batavia in 1864 and read law with N. A. Woodward; he was admitted to the bar in 1866 and has practiced for over thirty years in Batavia. In 1866 he was elected member of assembly, served in the sessions of 1867-68, and was appointed on several important committees. He has filled the office of internal revenue collector four years, was postmaster at Batavia four years, and a presidential elector for Garfield. As a Republican, for years he has been recognized as one of the strong and influential men of his party in Western New York and has exercised a potential influence in its ranks. It is as a lawyer that Mr. Tarbox is best known to the people of Genesee county, with whom he has lived for so many years. He is careful and painstaking in his profession, and through careful reading and research is well grounded in the philosophy of the law. It is mostly as a counselor that his professional efforts have been directed in late years; he is now vice-president and attorney for the Bank of Batavia. Mr. Tarbox married, July 21, 1870, Elizabeth L., daughter of Dr. Asa D. Lord of Batavia, and they have three children: Russell L., practicing law in New York city; Elizabeth D., a graduate of Smith College; and Julia B., a student at Vassar College. Mr. Tarbox and his family are members of the Batavia Presbyterian church.

Martin Brown is a native of Montgomery county, born 1850. He attended the common schools and in 1863 enlisted in Co. B, 25th Ohio Vols. He was wounded in an engagement at Grahamsville, S. C., in 1864, but continued in the service until the close of the war. On receiving his discharge he came to this county and for ten years followed the carpenter's trade, teaching school during the dull winter season. He began the study of law in the office of Myron H. Peck, with whom he remained two years, and then entered the Albany Law School, where he was graduated LL. B. with the class of 1882. He was admitted and began practice the same year. Mr. Brown has served as justice of the peace in Pembroke and Batavia. He married, in 1882, Mary J. Mattison, and of their union is one son, Allen G.

William E. Prentice, son of John and Sarah (Randall) Prentice, was born February 22, 1859. He attended the district schools and Le Roy Academy, beginning active life at the early age of sixteen years as a school teacher. Later he completed a college and post-graduate course,

taking degrees from Yale University and Rochester University; he also did special work at Columbia College. Mr. Prentice has served two terms as school commissioner of the county and accomplished much in enlarging and improving the school system. He first studied law in the office of William C. Watson, and later with Judge Safford E. North. He was admitted to practice in 1885. He has important business interests outside his profession, in which he has been very successful. Mr. Prentice is descended from Stephen Randall and Elisha Prentice, early settlers of Le Roy and Stafford.

William E. Webster, one of the well known attorneys of Batavia, was born in East Bloomfield, Ontario county, in 1859, the son of Dr. Daniel T. Webster and Hannah L. (Chamberlain) Webster. His education was received at Canandaigua Academy at Canandaigua, N. Y. In 1879, when he was twenty years of age, he joined the corps of instructors at Cary Collegiate Seminary at Oakfield, where he remained for three years. Having decided to follow the legal profession, at the end of his service as teacher he entered the office of William C. Watson at Batavia, and in January, 1883, was admitted to the bar. For two years he practiced law in partnership with William Tyrrell. He then spent one year in San Francisco, after which he returned to Batavia and resumed the practice of his profession independently. In 1898 he entered into a co-partnership, as senior member of the firm, with Bayard J. Stedman, who in that year was admitted to the bar at Rochester. Mr. Webster has conducted several important cases before the Supreme Court. One of the most noted of these (a case which attracted attention throughout the entire country) was the trial of Howard C. Benham for the murder of his wife, formerly Florence Tont. This trial took place in 1897, Mr. Webster appearing as one of the attorneys for the defendant. Mr. Webster is attorney for the Iroquois Portland Cement Company, which owns a large body of marl in the town of Bergen. He is also a member of the Masonic fraternity.

Nathan Armsby Woodward was born in Fairfax, Vt., March 9, 1818, a son of Joseph Woodward and Lucy (Wilmarth) Woodward. His father was a direct descendant of Nathaniel Woodward, who came from England and was one of the early settlers of Boston, Mass., settling there in 1635. Joseph Woodward was born in Franklin, Mass., moved to Fairfax, Vt., where he resided some fifteen years and in 1834 moved with his family to Western New York, where he lived several years in the town of Rush and died there July 23, 1863. N. A. Woodward pre-

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